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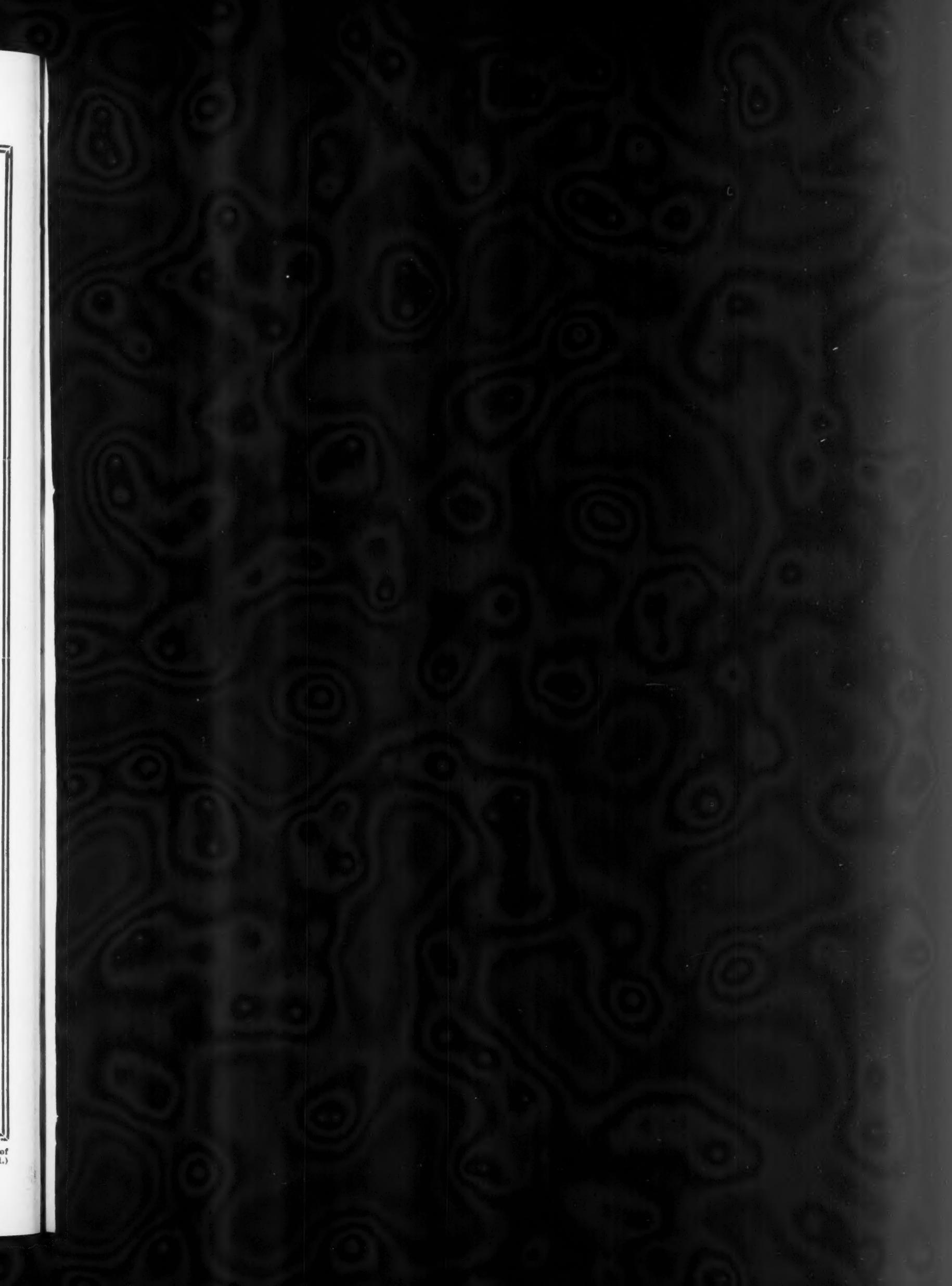
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

The Advantages by Marketing Your Cattle at Denver

are many and varied. Denver has a substantial West Coast demand as well as for the East. It is adjacent to the large beet-feeding sections of Colorado and Nebraska. It is en route to almost any feeding section of the Corn Belt. It is noted for its supply of hardy western well-doing cattle, which brings many buyers to that market. And if for any reason bids are unsatisfactory, shipments may be forwarded to any one of several markets at through freight rates.

Railroad service into Denver is excellent; the hay used on the market is the best the mountains produce; the facilities are as good as can be found.





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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume XV

DENVER, COLORADO, SEPTEMBER, 1933

Number 4

The Denver Conference

WHEN THE DROUGHT THAT HAS SEARED California and the states along the eastern border of the range country increased in severity as the summer advanced, stripping the fields bare of every semblance of grass, and threatening to throw on the market, already ruinously low, a horde of semi-famished animals of which their owners had to get rid on any terms, the recommendation was sent out from the office of the American National Live Stock Association that shipments be held back, where feed and financial conditions permitted, until this emergency movement was at an end.

The drought, however, only tended to throw into relief the whole deplorable state of the live-stock market, further accentuated by the advance in prices on other commodities, including those on feeds. Alarmed at the trend of events, producers everywhere were casting about for means of rescuing their industry from the chronic adversity into which it seemed to have drifted. How to bring about a rise in the price-level of live stock to a point that would not only assure cost of production, but guarantee a reasonable profit; how to place the business once more on a sound financial footing; how to restore the demand for meat, affected by the general depression, to its normal proportions, now that employment conditions were improving; how to keep production volume more closely adjusted to the consumptive outlet; how to secure a lowering of marketing charges in line with what the market would bring—to these and similar questions answers were being sought in thousands of stockmen's homes throughout the land.

And since these problems dovetailed at many

points with the task which the administration at Washington is undertaking through the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the thought naturally suggested itself whether solutions might not be found in connection with the "New Deal."

With that background, F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National, got in touch with the Secretary of Agriculture, sounding him as to what the department intended to do to help the live-stock producer, particularly the cattleman. Mr. Wallace asked for definite recommendations. Mr. Mollin proposed a conference at Denver between leading western stockmen and representatives of the Department of Agriculture—if possible, including Secretary Wallace himself. The idea being approved, a meeting was called by the American National and the National Wool Growers' Association for August 14 and 15.

As this would present a unique opportunity to obtain a cross-section of opinion on the mooted question of what to do with the public domain, and to discuss the contingency which has arisen from the order recently issued by the Secretary of the Interior for removal of private fences on the range, it was decided to give over the second day of the meeting to a discussion of these matters.

Invitations were at once dispatched to Secretary Henry A. Wallace; Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Governor of the Farm Credit Administration; Secretary Harold L. Ickes, of the Department of the Interior; representatives of live-stock organizations and individual stockmen in the states west of the Missouri River, packers, commission men, stock-yard operators, railroad executives, and many others interested, directly or indirectly, in live-stock affairs.

The response was immediate. Like an avalanche, once the ball was set rolling, announcements of intention to attend grew from hour to hour. When Charles E. Collins, president of the American National Live Stock Association, called the conference to order on the morning of August 14, there were more than 250 delegates from eighteen states in the hall of the Albany Hotel, where the meeting was held. These men had come, actuated by a single motive, to deal with concrete issues of the utmost concern to all. Unlike the annual conventions of stockmen's organizations, where the core of deliberations is set in a framework of entertainment, this was all business—and business of the most serious kind. From the point of view both of attendance, of the concentrated effort with which the problems were wrestled with, and of the brevity and clarity of the pronouncements made, it is doubtful if a better stockmen's meeting has ever been held in the West.

Unfortunately, neither Secretary Wallace, Secretary Ickes, nor Governor Morgenthau had found it possible to attend. This was cause for keen disappointment, as it was generally believed that speedier and more positive results might have been reached through direct contact with those in whose hands decisions will rest. Mr. Wallace had sent C. L. Harlan, of the Live Stock, Meats, and Wool Division of the Department of Agriculture, and Victor Christgau, assistant to C. C. Davis, Director of the Production Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, to represent him.

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE

Afternoon Session

Sunday, August 13, a preliminary meeting was held to arrange the program for the following day; Mr. Collins presiding and Mr. Mollin acting as secretary. Mr. Christgau and Mr. Harlan were present.

Fred H. Bixby, of Long Beach, California, being asked for his opinion, thought that the thing to do for the cattle-men in the present emergency was to enter into a marketing agreement, rather than try to get under the processing tax. Mr. Christgau explained that, unless cattle were put back in the Agricultural Adjustment Act as a basic commodity, it was futile to take up the matter of the processing tax at this stage.

After some discussion of the manner of proceeding under the act, Mr. Mollin suggested that, in order to save time at the regular meeting, the subject of committees be considered now. He proposed the appointment of four committees—one on Drought Relief, one on the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, one on Public Lands, and one on General Resolutions. This suggestion was approved.

Evening Session

Membership of the four committees agreed upon was considered, and their chairmen were tentatively selected. Leon Goodman, of Midland, Texas, urged the need for better financing of purchases of range cattle for direct shipment to Corn Belt feed-lots. With the retirement of commission firms from the loan business, it had become difficult to finance these

transactions, as government credit agencies were not co-operating. He suggested that a permanent finance or credit committee be appointed, to act in conjunction with federal agencies for the betterment of conditions within the industry; Texas to have two members, and each of the other range states one.

Field Bohart, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, spoke on the plan which had been advanced for disposing of surplus low-grade cattle by turning their beef over to relief agencies, reforestation camps, and similar bodies. John Mackenzie, of Denver, touched upon the difficulty of owning land to produce cattle under present conditions, referring to high taxes as an illustration. Mr. Bixby wanted an embargo on Argentine canned beef. J. A. Whittenburg, of Amarillo, Texas, spoke on the canning of low-grade beef. It was agreed that this subject should be covered in any marketing agreement that might be arranged with the packers.

FIRST DAY

Morning Session

Mr. Collins was elected chairman of the meeting, and J. B. Wilson, secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, secretary.

C. L. Harlan, for the Department of Agriculture, gave an illuminating review of drought and feed conditions in the western states, illustrating his talk with data and colored charts prepared by F. W. Beier, Jr., of Denver, live-stock statistician of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. He pointed to the continuing increase in the number of dairy cattle, as compared with a reduction in the supply of beef animals since 1920.

Mr. Bixby and Murdo Mackenzie, the latter of Denver, both past presidents of the American National Live Stock Association, called attention to the rising prices of cottonseed cake, which were creating a serious situation for those who had to buy feed, in the face of declining cattle values.

E. B. Spiller, of Fort Worth, Texas, secretary of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, said that that association had taken up the matter of fixing prices on cottonseed cake with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and suggested that such prices be included in any marketing agreement entered into by live-stock producers, processors, and the A. A. A.

Victor Christgau, a former member of Congress from Minnesota, explained the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act as applied to live stock. He repeated that, as neither cattle nor sheep were included in the basic commodities mentioned in the act, no processing tax could be imposed in their case. The only method by which producers of cattle and sheep could take advantage of the act was through a marketing agreement with processors and the A. A. A. He pledged the aid of the administration to producers in every possible way.

Following Mr. Christgau's address, a general discussion took place of the manner in which administration measures could best be applied for the benefit of the live-stock industry.

A motion was then made by Dolph Briscoe, of Uvalde, Texas, president of the Texas association, that the four committees proposed at Sunday's meeting be appointed by the chairman. This was accepted, and Mr. Collins named the following:

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

1. Committee on General Resolutions—H. G. Boice, chairman, and Dan McKinney, Arizona; F. H. Bixby, California; L. W. Clough, W. L. Curtis, Thomas McQuaid, and A. A. Smith, Colorado; W. T. Cobb, Louisiana; Earl Mona-

han and Robert Reasoner, Nebraska; Henry Garat, Nevada; John Lusk and B. V. Wilson, New Mexico; T. D. Hobart and D. H. Snyder, Texas; John Quealy and Perry Williams, Wyoming.

2. *Committee on Drought Relief*—J. T. Sneed, Jr., Texas, chairman; J. M. Cartwright, Arizona; B. F. Davis, F. E. Hanks, A. C. Johnson, R. M. McMillin, and J. A. Shoemaker, Colorado; F. M. Broome and Robert Graham, Nebraska; W. H. Merchant and A. K. Mitchell, New Mexico; Jack Nason, South Dakota; J. L. Bivins and G. B. Hill, Texas; Arling Gardner, Russell Thorp, and J. B. Wilson, Wyoming. All railroad men present were invited to sit with this committee.

3. *Committee on Agricultural Adjustment Administration*—Dolph Briscoe, Texas, chairman; H. G. Boice, Harry Jamison, and A. A. Johns, Arizona; W. A. Freeman, James Hollister, and Hubbard Russell, California; Field Bohart, J. G. Brown, L. A. Edmundson, and E. J. Wagner, Colorado; Albert Campbell, Idaho; C. H. Brooks, Kansas; W. F. Cobb and G. M. Lester, Louisiana; C. J. Abbott and Robert Graham, Nebraska; J. B. Garat, Nevada; A. K. Mitchell and B. C. Mossman, New Mexico; Jack Nason, South Dakota; R. H. Harris and W. E. Herring, Texas (E. B. Spiller acting as secretary); J. M. Macfarlane and F. R. Marshall, Utah; J. Elmer Brock, H. J. King, and J. B. Wilson, Wyoming.

4. *Committee on Public Lands*—O. M. Lee, New Mexico, chairman; A. A. Johns and H. J. Smith, Arizona; Fred DeBerard and George Watson, Colorado; Albert Campbell, Idaho; J. B. Garat, Jr., Nevada; W. H. Merchant and A. K. Mitchell, New Mexico; W. W. Brunson, Texas; J. M. Macfarlane, Utah; J. Elmer Brock and F. W. Hesse, Wyoming.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session was opened by Homer R. Davison, vice-president of the Institute of American Meat Packers, Chicago, who discoursed on the marketing code submitted by the packers. This code related to trade practices only, and had for its purpose the fixing of minimum prices on all grades of live stock, allocation of supplies to the various markets, and, possibly, establishment of fixed prices on meat. The threefold aim of the agreement was to extend the foreign markets for our live-stock products, to increase meat consumption, and to eliminate bad practices in the industry.

A number of questions were raised at the close of Mr. Davison's speech. Murdo Mackenzie would like to know whether the grading of beef had tended to keep prices down. (Davison thought not.) Mr. Bixby asked whether classification of cattle, if attempted, should be done in the country or at market points. (Davison was of the opinion that it would have to be done at both places.) Bixby inquired as to the packers' attitude toward an embargo on imported canned meats. (Davison did not know.) Bixby asked if producers could count on support from packers in any demand they might make that the army and navy, and other government agencies, be required to buy only home-produced meat. (Davison believed they could.) Bixby suggested that a dictator be placed at the markets to regulate the flow of live stock. (Davison replied that the packers were committed to that proposition.) Bixby stated that he was strongly in favor of reduced commission, yardage, and feed charges, and said that these charges should be included in any marketing agreement. He thought producers would be willing to curtail production if assured that, when a period of meat shortage arrived, the government would not resort to the expedient of importing foreign meats.

Arthur C. Johnson, secretary of the Denver Live Stock Exchange, inquired as to the position of the packers with regard to direct buying. Davison replied that it was the same as it had always been—that the producer should have the privilege of selling his live stock how and when he pleased; there should be no discrimination between direct buying and buying at the market. E. N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago, explained

that the minimum-price proposal had originated with the hogmen, and that, under the proposed agreement, packers had no authority to allocate territory. Bixby said that California would always insist upon direct buying in that state.

F. R. Marshall, of Salt Lake City, Utah, secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association, speaking for the sheepmen, declared that these did not want to be dragged into any scheme involving a compensating tax on lamb, and were opposed to being tied up in any agreement calling for price adjustment or regulation of shipments.

Someone asked whether the packers had requested that the Consent Decree be rescinded, so that they could go into the retail business. Chairman Collins explained that this matter had been settled by the Supreme Court. Mr. Harlan thought that, if trade agreements were entered into, the Consent Decree would be set aside.

P. O. Wilson, manager of the National Live Stock Marketing Association, Chicago, said that his organization had been opposed to including cattle, sheep, and hogs as basic commodities in the Agricultural Adjustment Act; but, after hogs had been taken in, he favored the inclusion likewise of cattle and sheep.

A. E. deRicqles, of Denver, believed that prices were influenced more by demand than by supply, and suggested that we try to expand our foreign markets for meat, as was being done in the case of wheat and cotton.

A telegram was read from Dr. A. J. Hoffman, of Marfa, Texas, secretary of the Highland Hereford Breeders' Association, to the effect that producers today, under the terms of the National Industrial Recovery Act, had an opportunity to increase consumption of their product by licensing all packing plants and butcher shops, and by establishing grades so that a canner carcass would be sold at a canner price. Dairy cattle, forming a large part of market receipts and going into direct competition with the product of beef-producers, should be graded and sold for what they were.

Thereupon Mr. Spiller submitted the report of the Committee on the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE OF FIVE

We, your Committee on the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, make the following recommendations:

1. That the President of the American National Live Stock Association immediately call a meeting of the Executive Committee of that association, for the purpose of appointing a Committee of Five, which committee will be empowered to act for the American National in all matters before the Agricultural Adjustment Administration affecting the cattle industry.
2. That this Committee of Five immediately contact other cattle associations, and other allied interests and organizations not now affiliated with the American National, for the purpose of securing the co-operation of all cattle interests in matters before the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.
3. That this Committee of Five investigate the possibility of supplying domestic canned meats to charitable organizations, for the purpose of feeding the destitute and unemployed, and suggest to the proper authorities the feasibility of such a plan.

The following were named by the Executive Committee to constitute the Committee of Five: Charles E. Collins, Kit Carson, Colorado, chairman; C. J. Abbott, Alliance, Nebraska; Dolph Briscoe, Uvalde, Texas; J. Elmer Brock, Kaycee, Wyoming; and Hubbard Russell, Los Angeles, California.

How to finance the Committee of Five was the subject of considerable debate. Mr. Mollin explained that the financial condition of the American National was such that it could not possibly take care of this additional burden. It was finally decided, on motion of Mr. Bixby, to call upon the various states, through the state associations, to pay their pro-rata of the cost, based upon their beef cattle population, according to a list to be prepared by the secretary of the American National. This would involve the collection of a preliminary fund of \$5,000, which might later have to be increased. As none of the states has made provision for this kind of extraordinary outlay in its regular budget, the amount will have to be raised through a special assessment. Any individual remittances received by the American National for this purpose, Mr. Mollin stated, will be credited to the quotas of the respective states. The American National, for its part, will pay the expenses of the Denver meeting, cost of telegrams, etc. It is proposed to reimburse members of the committee only for their actual expenditures, and not to allow them any per diem.

After some discussion, the report was approved.

Evening Session

The reports of the Committees on Drought Relief and General Resolutions were presented. A resolution submitted by Leon Goodman on financing the shipment of live stock from the range into the Corn Belt was incorporated into the memorial submitted by the latter committee. After discussion, the reports were unanimously adopted. They follow:

REPORT OF DROUGHT RELIEF COMMITTEE

REDUCED RATES ON LIVE STOCK AND FEED

The Drought Relief Committee recommends that the following resolutions be adopted, and that request be made of the carriers for reduced rates on live stock and feed:

1. That we be granted the regular tariff rate on live stock moving to feed, with free return movement to point of shipment.

2. That we be granted one-half of the regular tariff rate on cottonseed meal, cottonseed cake, linseed meal, soy beans, soy meal, grain of all kinds, hay, straw, and feed, including mixed feed as well as feed made entirely of grain.

3. Due to the fact that it is not possible at all times to purchase feed or secure grass for live stock on a certain railroad where the haul can be entirely over one line, we urgently request the carriers to make the reductions named applicable over joint lines where through rates are at present operative; reductions to become effective at once, and rates on feed to remain in effect until June 1, 1934, and on the return movement of live stock until July 1, 1934.

4. That the governors of the states affected by drought conditions designate to just what parts of their respective states these rates are to be applied.

MEMORIAL SUBMITTED BY COMMITTEE ON GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

THE TARIFF

One of the major problems which the new administration has found at hand is that of raising the price of agricultural products to a pre-war parity. Extraordinary meas-

ures are now being taken by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to bring about such a parity. Simultaneously, other departments of the government have issued repeated statements as to the advisability and necessity of stimulating foreign trade by lowering the tariff. We call attention to the absolute inconsistency of these two programs. The greatest consuming market of the world lies in the United States. Far more important results in hastening the return of prosperity can be attained by doing everything possible to stimulate home purchasing power and home consumption, and at the same time preserving the domestic market for the domestic producer. Any slight advantage which may come to this country through increasing its foreign trade—which at best is a mere fraction of the domestic trade—cannot be justified if it is gained at the expense of the domestic agricultural producer through increasing competition on his products. We demand that the tariff be maintained at a point which fully protects the American producer, taking into consideration the effect of low standards of living and depreciated currencies abroad.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE QUARANTINE

Since 1902 there have been seven outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in the United States, which, according to the Bureau of Animal Industry, have cost our people almost two hundred millions of dollars. In spite of this fact, there is no closed season upon the efforts of South American republics, working through diplomatic channels, to set aside the quarantine which has been rigidly maintained in recent years, and to gain entry to our markets for their dressed-meat products. So long as foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist in any foreign country, we demand that no imports of live animals or dressed meats be allowed from such country or any subdivision thereof, as there is no proper safeguard except absolute quarantine.

GOVERNMENT PURCHASE OF FOREIGN MEATS

For many years the live-stock industry of this country has pleaded with its government to insure that American-produced meats be used solely by all government departments, except in cases where army and navy units were maintained on foreign soil. It was thought that these efforts would be crowned with success when Section 2, Title III, of the Treasury Appropriation Bill, approved March 3, 1933, contained the following language:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless the head of the department or independent establishment concerned shall determine it to be inconsistent with the public interest, or the cost to be unreasonable, only such unmanufactured articles, materials, and supplies as have been mined or produced in the United States, and only such manufactured articles, materials, and supplies as have been manufactured in the United States substantially all from articles, materials, or supplies mined, produced, or manufactured, as the case may be, in the United States, shall be acquired for public use."

In the face of this provision, we are informed that substantial quantities of imported canned corn beef are being used in the camps of the Civilian Conservation Corps in various forests. We urge that the War and Navy Departments be obliged to observe, not only the letter, but the spirit of the law as quoted above, and in the future confine their purchases to American products.

FOREST GRAZING FEES

We express our appreciation of the prompt interest taken by the Secretary of Agriculture in working out a schedule of forest grazing fees related to live-stock prices, so that the fees will automatically respond to changes in

market conditions, and yet on the average, over a period of years, approximate the amount of the fees accepted in the 1927 conference and based upon relative forage values. We express the hope that the basic periods determined upon for the experiment may prove to be satisfactory after a fair test has been made, and that the system may be adopted as a final solution of this much-discussed question.

COMMISSION RATES

The decisions recently made by the Packers and Stock Yards Administration as to commission rates at St. Louis and Kansas City are based upon current costs of doing business, and consequently the rates are the lowest of any so far ordered into effect. We urge that all markets immediately recognize the fairness and necessity of marketing charges being related to present costs of doing business, if volume is to be maintained, and that similar rates be established at all other markets, without the expense and delay incident to formal hearings.

YARDAGE CHARGES

Efforts to reduce yardage rates through the Packers and Stock Yards Administration have been largely unsuccessful. As in the case of the railroads, the valuations placed upon the property involved are so high that the reduced volume of business does not justify substantial reductions. It is becoming increasingly apparent that when rates are maintained on a scale which the shipper is unwilling to support, recourse is taken to other methods of marketing. Witness the tremendous inroads the truck has made upon railroad traffic, and auction sales and direct marketing upon stock-yard transactions. We express the belief that only through attractive rates can this business be turned back to the old channels, regardless of whether those rates are high enough to assure the desired earnings.

TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION

The records of the Bureau of Animal Industry show that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, out of 7,554,258 cattle slaughtered under federal meat inspection, only 31,971, aside from known reactors, were retained for tuberculosis, and only 6,430 condemned. Last year, at our request, the Bureau of Animal Industry initiated a careful study, at the main packing centers contiguous to the range country, of all range animals affected, tracing such animals back through the brands to the originating point. This work is just being got under way again for the current shipping season. The results of last year's study along this line clearly demonstrated, not only the remarkable freedom from disease of the vast majority of range herds, but also the practicability of tracing through the brands any disease which had been brought into the range country by the importation of infected live stock. There is little doubt that similar results will be obtained this year, and we urge Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association to take cognizance of the situation and to modify existing regulations so that range herds may be accredited upon the basis of a careful check of the packing-house records when animals from these herds are sent to slaughter. It will tremendously expedite the final accreditation of the entire range country, and will save thousands of dollars to the federal government, the co-operating states, and the individual stockmen in years to come, as retesting is necessary.

OLEOMARGARINE LEGISLATION

Pending national legislation which will insure for the American producer the American market for oleomargarine

made 100 per cent from domestic fats and oils, we urge that other states follow the example set by Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, and Minnesota in passing legislation for the protection of the domestic producer. All the laws enacted in these states place a tax upon oleomargarine, in some instances exempting product made 100 per cent from domestic fats and oils, and in other cases stipulating a fixed content of animal fat which the product must contain to be exempt from the tax.

BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

Appropriations for the Bureau of Biological Survey were reduced 27 per cent in the general economy program. Inasmuch as the National Industrial Recovery Act allocates large sums to be expended for various public works, and a fraction of these funds could well be spent in predatory-animal and rodent control work, we urge Secretary Ickes, of the Department of the Interior, who is in charge of the public-works program, to honor the request submitted by the above-named bureau for \$598,000 for work of this kind, and to put the amount on the active list, instead of on the deferred list, where it stands at present.

REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL CREDIT CORPORATIONS

In view of the importance to the live-stock industry of the credit being extended by the Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations, we feel that the primary prerequisite in the appointment of personnel to these agencies should be efficiency and experience, and that all political considerations should be reduced to a minimum.

FINANCING SHIPMENTS OF FEEDERS INTO CORN BELT

There now exist governmental agencies for the financing of live stock in all sections of the United States, which have functioned and are functioning with great benefit to the cattlemen of this country. In the past, feeders in the Corn Belt have purchased their stocker and feeder cattle from the range states, being financed by private agencies maintaining direct connection between the range and the Corn Belt. Under present conditions, it is impossible for range producers to ship their cattle to the Corn Belt, unless and until such cattle are paid for at the loading station. Especially in view of the drought, it is of vital importance that a prompt outlet exist between the range producing states and the Corn Belt feeder states for feeder and stocker cattle. We therefore request the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration to make arrangements for establishing a liaison between the Corn Belt feeder states and the cattle-producing states, so that, where and if credit is granted to the Corn Belt feeder, subject to the stocker or feeder cattle being satisfactory, inspection and approval be arranged for at the point of origin of such cattle, and that, when so approved, the inspecting agent shall be empowered to give to the seller payment by proper bill-of-sale draft. We further suggest that copies of this resolution be mailed to the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration and to the Secretary of Agriculture.

LIVE-STOCK PRICES AND RETAIL PRICES ON MEATS

It is an established fact that retail prices of meats in the last few weeks have materially increased, and that these advances have not been paralleled by similar advances in prices of live stock on the hoof. In the case of beef, in particular, the spread between the prices received by the grower and the prices paid by the consumer has widened. We urge that the proper division of the Department of Agriculture be instructed to investigate all phases of this situation, with a view to protecting the interests of the producer

and assuring him of his just proportion of any increase in the price of meat.

BEEF BY-PRODUCT OF DAIRY INDUSTRY

The recent report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the Department of Agriculture shows that the total number of cattle in the North Central and Western groups of states, and in Texas and Oklahoma, since 1920 has been reduced approximately 3,000,000 head. The same report shows that dairy cattle in the same area have increased about 4,000,000 head in this period. Thus it is evident that any surplus of beef which might exist is due entirely to the increase in dairy cattle, as beef cattle in the same area have declined approximately 1,000,000 head. We therefore urge the Secretary of Agriculture immediately to investigate the possibility of disposing of this beef by-product of the dairy industry, without allowing it to come into competition with the products of the beef-cattle industry.

USE OF BEEF BY RELIEF AGENCIES

We are reliably informed that the federal and state relief agencies in the various states are using comparatively small quantities of meat, and in some cases no meat at all, in the rations issued to the unemployed and destitute. In order that a more balanced diet may be provided for these people, and that the meat industry may enjoy the increased consumption which it so greatly needs, we recommend that each of these states and federal relief agencies be urged materially to increase the quantity of meat included in the rations being issued by it, and that this meat be 100 per cent of domestic production.

SECOND DAY

Morning Session

The resolution proposed by Mr. Goodman at Sunday's preliminary meeting, calling for the appointment of a permanent National Advisory Cattlemen's Credit Committee to represent the entire western cattle-producing country, was read. The duty of this committee would be to supply unbiased and expert opinions and facts to the various government credit agencies established for assisting the cattlemen in their financial problems. After considerable discussion, the resolution was laid on the table, for the reason that the method suggested for the selection of members of the committee—one by each state—would be in violation of the by-laws of the American National, which prescribe the manner of appointing standing committees.

Thereupon the report on public lands was submitted by the chairman of that committee:

REPORT OF PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE

DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC DOMAIN

WHEREAS, There is now a great economic depression in the public-land states; and

WHEREAS, The permanent settlement of the public-domain question at this time would be of great benefit to these states, and relieve the government of the expense of maintaining many bureaus and federal agencies; therefore be it

Resolved, That we favor the immediate enactment of a law for the final disposition of the remaining public domain, such disposition to be either by the ceding of the land to the states, together with all mineral rights, except those now in a state of development, or by the placing of the lands in the hands of the state, in trust, for the purpose of disposition at as early a date as possible, and as nearly as possible to the present users; sales of the land under such provision to be on a basis commensurate with the earning

value of the land for grazing purposes, and proceeds from such sales to be divided between the federal and state governments on an equitable basis. Provided, that each state shall select one of the above methods for the disposition of its lands within a ten-year period; provided, further, that, in any state not electing to choose one of the above methods, the land shall be retained permanently by the Department of the Interior for lease, under such regulations as it may prescribe.

A. J. Macfarlane, of Salt Lake City, president of the Utah Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, expressed himself as being in favor of some parts of the resolution, but opposed to others. He said that Utah would join Arizona in requesting that full title to the lands be ceded to the states, but that this was a remote contingency, and that something should be done at once. Several others spoke in indorsement. The motion being put, the resolution was adopted.

On the question of the removal of fences from the domain, O. M. Lee, of Alamogordo, New Mexico, brought in the below resolution, and moved its adoption. After an amendment suggested by Mr. Bixby had been incorporated, the motion prevailed:

REMOVAL OF FENCES

Your Public Lands Committee, after due consideration, offers to the general conference for its consideration the following resolution relative to the order of the Secretary of the Interior affecting fences upon the public domain:

WHEREAS, Citizens of the United States residing in the public-land-grant states, and more particularly in the States of New Mexico and Arizona, engaged in the production of cattle and sheep, have in some instances and localities, with the knowledge and consent of the Department of the Interior, in their efforts to perfect a more efficient and economical management of their respective ranches, to conserve and restore to some degree the carrying capacity of the lands of the public domain within the areas so affected, to secure benefits hereinafter enumerated in part, and for other reasons, erected and maintained fences upon the said public domain, usually known as drift-fences, thereby in some instances inclosing lands of the public domain: (1) the fences so erected permit better regulation of grazing according to carrying capacity; (2) they encourage and permit each individual to improve the quality of his herds, to the benefit both of the producer and of the consuming public; (3) they give the ranch-owner better protection from straying and theft; and

WHEREAS, Many of the herds, both cattle and sheep, maintained and protected by such inclosures and drift-fences, are held as security by the federal government for loans made to the owners thereof, and the elimination of the fences would reduce the security so held; and

WHEREAS, Certain of the inclosed areas included in the order to remove fences are under federal quarantine for scabies, and these areas cannot be cleaned if cattle may not be kept separate and apart from uninfected herds, and the removal of the fences at this time would permit many thousands of infected and exposed cattle to drift into clean herds and ranges, thus vastly extending the areas of disease and quarantine, imposing an additional and unwarranted burden upon the owners of herds now uninfected, and, through the wanton spread of disease, making the cleaning of infected areas by the Bureau of Animal Industry impossible; and

WHEREAS, The President has declared war on the deplorable and distressing economic conditions of the nation, and is endeavoring to extend aid and relief to individuals

and industries, and the imposition of this order is in direct conflict with the thought, theory, and aim of the President; and

WHEREAS, There are now, and for many years have been, on file in the Department of the Interior plats or maps showing the approximate location and ownership of these fences, with reports from special agents covering the majority of cases on file, and we believe the reports will show that the erection and maintenance of the fences are not injurious to the welfare of the general public; therefore be it

Resolved, That any order issued or proposed for the removal of such fences be not enforced or notice served until Congress has had opportunity to pass legislation providing for the final disposal of the public domain.

The secretary is instructed to forward this resolution to Hon. Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, and to other interested parties, as the conference may direct.

Two other resolutions—one for appointment of a Committee of Four to intercede with the Department of the Interior in behalf of those who have erected fences, and the other favoring the immediate repeal of the 640-Acre Grazing Homestead Act—were read and adopted. They follow:

COMMITTEE OF FOUR

Your Public Lands Committee recommends that a Committee of Four be appointed by the President of the American National Live Stock Association—two each from the States of New Mexico and Arizona—for the purpose of going to Washington, if necessary, and interceding in behalf of our industry with the proper authorities, to the end that the order for removal of the fences on the public domain be postponed or rescinded.

After conferring with delegates from the two states, President Collins designated the following to serve on the Committee of Four: O. M. Lee, Alamogordo, and B. C. Mossman, Roswell, for New Mexico; A. A. Johns, Prescott, and C. E. Ronstadt, Tucson, for Arizona.

REPEAL OF 640-ACRE GRAZING HOMESTEAD ACT

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the meeting was in favor of the immediate repeal of the 640-Acre Grazing Homestead Act.

At the stroke of twelve o'clock, noon, after thanks had been extended to President Collins and Secretary Mollin for their work in connection with this momentous meeting, the conference adjourned.

SAVING THE PUBLIC RANGE

BY HOWARD J. SMITH

State Land Commissioner, Phoenix, Arizona

UNEMPLOYMENT, AS ALL KNOW, IS THE ENIGMA from which the nation asks relief. Pending the absorption of excess labor by industry, the national and state governments are, through public finance, attempting to relieve the situation.

Unfortunately, much of the work to which idle men are being put is without merit or value, and represents a dead loss from the standpoint of the citizen and taxpayer. Therefore it behooves the government to consider whether this state of affairs shall continue, or whether more thought shall be given to the ultimate benefit to be derived from the expenditure of the vast sums now being, and to continue to be, spent.

What projects and programs should be considered? I believe there can be nothing more important than the tremendous amount of work possible and needed upon the great ranges of the West. These ranges compose by far the greater part of the western states and are available practically only for the grazing of live stock. Nevertheless they are slowly deteriorating in value, due to the effects of erosion and the lack of flood control, the steady increase of noxious weed, and the depredation of the rodent.

The stockman cannot, because of the expense involved, assume the burden and obligation of such a task, but the government, concerned only with the matter of unemployment, can give him a needed helping hand, and prevent thereby the assured return to useless waste of thousands and millions of acres of range land.

"Every cloud has a silver lining," and, undesirable as we must admit it to be, the present government employment of labor can and should be a boon and blessing to the stockmen of grazing states.

At the recent convention of the Cochise-Graham Cattle Growers' Association in Safford I submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, The great ranges of the State of Arizona are slowly deteriorating, due to the depredation of jack-rabbits and other rodents, the erosive effects created, in part, by concentration of flood waters in the building of bridges and highways, the steady encroachment of noxious weeds, and the subsequent elimination of native grasses; and

"WHEREAS, The raising of live stock is a basic industry of the State of Arizona, and millions of acres of this state can be profitably used solely for this purpose; and

"WHEREAS, The control of rodents and flood water, the prevention of erosion, and the elimination of noxious weeds represent a task in excess of the resources and power of the stock-grower; and

"WHEREAS, Continuation of the above detrimental activities will mean the return to useless waste of millions of acres of land, the destruction of the local live-stock industry, and the loss of revenue and valuation to the State of Arizona; and

"WHEREAS, The immediate fencing of state highways is essential for the protection of life and limb; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Cochise-Graham Cattle Growers' Association hereby requests and recommends an extension of the reforestation program of the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of these United States, under similar arrangements, to include the essential and profitable work heretofore enumerated; and be it further

Resolved, That we recommend to the authorities of the State of Arizona their consideration of the above proposition as a basic plan for the elimination of unemployment."

WHAT THE MEAT BOARD IS DOING FOR BEEF

BY REDMAN B. DAVIS

Department of Publication, Chicago, Illinois

DESIGNED TO BRING TO THE PUBLIC A BETTER knowledge of the food value of beef, its selection and preparation, and other essential facts, and to acquaint retail meat-dealers with new and effective merchandising methods, the beef-promotional activities of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, although carried on with limited facilities, set a new record in the fiscal year ending July 1. More persons were reached and a greater territory was covered than in any similar period since the work was initiated.

During the year, 223 beef-merchandising demonstrations were conducted in 127 cities of 22 states and the District of Columbia. Attention was centered on helping the retailer to sell more beef through the introduction of new styles in cuts and many other sales ideas, and through consumer education. The demonstrations have been of definite value to the meat-

dealer in helping him solve the problem of moving the less-demanded cuts. In the past the greater number of calls by meat-customers have been for the so-called popular cuts, representing about 26 per cent of the beef carcass, leaving 74 per cent in more or less limited demand. New methods of marketing these slower-moving cuts have been designed and presented.

The board's merchandising program is showing the retailer that his display counter is in reality an advertising medium, if intelligently used. On various occasions display counters have been used in demonstrating how beef can be arranged, trimmed, and displayed to the best advantage.

A new phase of the merchandising program has been the introduction of charts and cutting tests developed by the board, which give to the retailer a clear picture of the amount of shrinkage and other factors involved in the preparation of boneless cuts. The fundamental principles of meat cookery also have been introduced, in order that the men who merchandise beef may be able to be of assistance to their customers in advising how the various cuts may be prepared to best advantage.

A very important phase of the past year's activities has been the presentation of meat lectures in connection with the demonstration programs. The basis for these lectures has been the board's new "Food Value" charts. Since the charts present facts as to the high value of beef as a source of protein, iron and copper, phosphorus, vitamins, and calories, they have impressed retailers with the importance of beef cuts from the standpoint of health and nutrition. Many of these charts are displayed in markets because of their high educational value.

Many groups have been contacted, in addition to retail meat-dealers. Housewives have praised the modern cuts of beef because of their possibilities in adding variety to the menu. Hotel and restaurant audiences have seen the opportunities of making good use of the slower-moving beef cuts. Teachers have acclaimed the value of the demonstrations for their students in their practical application to class-room studies in meat.

A school of meat-cookery program, nation-wide in scope, inaugurated on February 1, has brought to more than 72,000 housewives, in 19 cities of 9 states, practical and helpful information on the selection and preparation of beef, and acquainted them with new beef dishes, in addition to the other meats. More than 2,000 retailers, in connection with special meetings held prior to the opening of cooking schools, have taken advantage of the opportunity to "tie in" with the cooking-school program.

A heavy demand for literature has been a feature of the year's activities. Material dealing with beef, wholly or in part, has been sent out upon request at the average rate of more than 1,200 pieces per day.

Radio has played a significant part. During the year instructive radio talks on beef have been presented over radio stations from coast to coast. Approximately one-third of the 3,181 meat talks for which the board was responsible, or 1,060, have been on beef.

The work of college and university men in educational beef campaigns has been one of the high-lights of the year. These men, most of whom received instruction in the board's meat training schools, have been actively at work in 23 states from New York to Kansas and from North Dakota to Texas. They have been responsible for 296 beef demonstrations and 162 lectures, attended by nearly 68,000 persons.

The progress made this past year in the beef-promotion program is an impetus for a wider scope of activities in the future.

QUALITY AND PALATABILITY OF BEEF

IN THE ATTRACTIVE AND ELABORATE REPORT OF the tenth annual meeting of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, just to hand, a summary is given of the results so far obtained in the investigations carried on for the past eight years by the Meat Board, through the National Research Council, in co-operation with three bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, the Institute of American Meat Packers, and thirty state agricultural experiment stations. The purpose of this study, originally suggested by C. M. O'Donel when a member of the board, representing the American National Live Stock Association, was to determine the factors influencing the quality and palatability of meat. As the work progressed, its scope gradually widened, taking in such problems as cost of gain in conditioning of animals, methods of ripening and processing, standardizing, meat in nutrition, economical meat cookery, etc. These matters are all reported on.

On the production phase of cattle, as related to the main line of study, the following findings are presented:

A. Breed—

1. No important differences were found in quality or palatability of meat from different beef breeds.
2. The chief differences between meat from cattle of improved and unimproved breeding, fed similarly, proved to be in weight for age, yield, and appearance of the carcasses.

B. Sex—

1. Heifers fattened more rapidly than steers and produced more fat at the same weights.
2. Heifers tended to yield a slightly higher percentage of carcass than steers at equal final weights.
3. Heifer and steer beef was found equal in palatability.
4. Heifers slaughtered at a live weight of 725 pounds proved to be about as well finished as steers handled in a comparable manner, but slaughtered at 850 pounds.

C. Ration—

1. Various practical balanced rations, comparing such feeds as corn with wheat, cottonseed meal with linseed meal, and hay with silage, in general have not produced significant differences in the palatability of the resultant beef.
2. Beef from three-year-old steers fed 8 pounds of grain daily on good pasture was fatter and more attractive, but only slightly more palatable, than the beef from steers fed on good pasture alone.
3. A special ration consisting of ear-corn silage (replacing shelled corn and regular silage), cottonseed meal, and alfalfa hay produced choice beef when full-fed to choice feeder calves. However, thirty to sixty more days were required to produce a choice carcass than when the standard ration of shelled corn, cottonseed meal, silage, and alfalfa hay was used.
4. It has appeared that the color, tenderness, and desirability of lean in cattle depend more upon other factors than upon the amount and character of the grass or grasses that the animal has eaten.

D. Grade—

1. Grade of feeder showed little relationship to the rate of gain of the steer.
2. Grade of beef carcass was found to depend largely on grade of feeder, and total gain on the finishing ration.
3. No reliable external indications of color of lean of beef carcasses were discovered in grading studies.
4. The most reliable external evidence of abundant and extensive marbling in beef was thick external fat. Associated with it were thickness of flesh and a uniform width of carcass.

E. Age—

1. Heifer beef proved definitely more tender than beef from cows five years old or over, although there was no marked difference between them in desirability of flavor or in juiciness.
2. On the other hand, roasts from fattened two-year-old and yearling steers, though more palatable in general

than roasts from fatted calves, showed no significant differences in tenderness.

3. Distribution of fat through the lean was more satisfactory in beef from yearling and two-year-old cattle than in beef from calves.

4. Age of the animal had little influence on the percentage of the various cuts of beef among fatted calves, yearlings, and two-year-olds.

F. Color—

1. No feed or method of handling has been found to which responsibility for dark beef can be attributed.

2. Dark beef from young, well-fed cattle has been as attractive in color after roasting, and as tender and palatable, as beef that was bright before cooking.

3. The bluestem grass of Kansas has not produced beef that is significantly darker in color than the beef from drylot fed cattle.

4. There is an indication that some of the yellowness in fat may be due to grass in the ration.

G. Degree of Finish—

1. Richness of juice appeared to improve somewhat with increasing finish, although a highly desirable richness of juice does not require excessive finish.

2. Creep-feeding of calves previous to weaning increased the fatness, dressing percentage, storage quality, and attractiveness of the resultant beef.

3. Steers that had lost weight for sixty days on drought-stricken pasture produced meat containing a most undesirable flavor and odor (one trial only).

H. Record of Performance—

1. Purebred steers of one breed, some of which were closely related, have shown interesting differences in performance factors, such as efficiency of feed utilization, carcass grade, and tenderness.

These studies are to be continued.

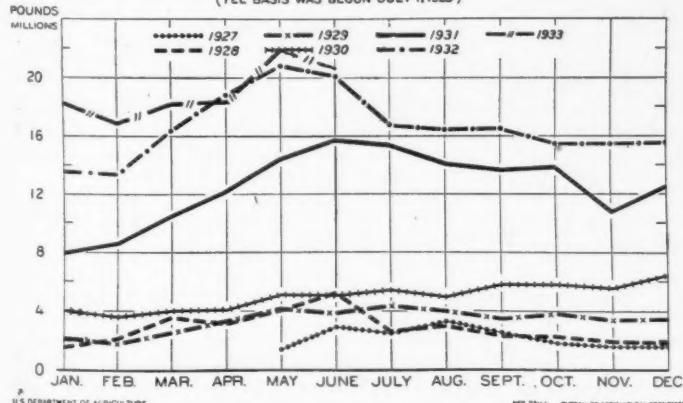
GOVERNMENT MEAT-GRADING SERVICE SHOWS PROGRESS

BY W. C. DAVIS

Senior Marketing Specialist, Department of Agriculture

DESPITE THE GENERALLY UNSETTLED CONDITIONS throughout the country, the Department of Agriculture's meat-grading service made substantial gains during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933. New high monthly records were reached during the months of May and June, when more than 20,000,000 pounds of beef per month were

BEEF GRADED AND STAMPED
(FEE BASIS WAS BEGUN JULY 1, 1928)



graded and stamped. The total for the year was 213,479,468 pounds of beef and 8,305,609 pounds of lamb. Quantity of beef graded showed an increase of 25,054,401 pounds, or 13.3 per cent, over the previous year. Quantity of lamb to receive the official grade stamp showed an increase of 4,014,922 pounds, or 93.6 per cent, during the same period.

There has been no expansion of the service during the period, and no increase in the number of employees. The service as a whole is self-supporting. The average cost per hundred pounds of meat graded during the year was 3 cents.

The constant and increasing demand for meats bearing the official grade stamp has not come from any particular group or section of the country. All branches of the meat industry, from slaughterer to retailer and consumer, have been responsible for the continued increase. Scores of individual retailers and meat-buyers for chain-store organizations have reported that they no longer find it necessary to make trips to market in order to procure the grade of meat they want. They buy according to official grades and agree on the price by telephone. The same is true of hotel stewards and hotel and restaurant supply houses.

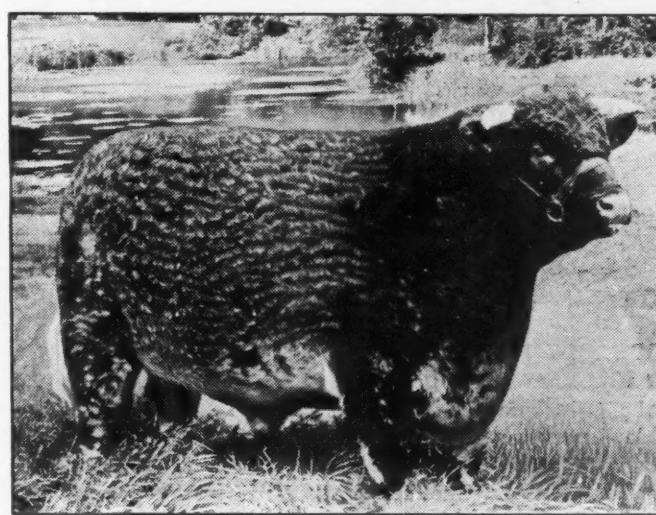
The accompanying chart shows development of beef-grading by months and years since its inception in 1927.

EXPORT TRADE WILL IMPROVE WITH REGISTERED BEEF CATTLE PRICES

BY F. W. HARDING

Secretary, American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Chicago, Illinois

SOME TWO YEARS AGO THE WRITER CALLED ON the director and other members of the Federal Farm Board, having in mind the possibility of a loan by the United States, either direct to Soviet Russia or to a co-operative organization here, the proceeds to be used to purchase 3,000 bulls of our three leading beef breeds. The Soviet government was at that time apparently willing to buy this number of bulls here, if terms could be extended, as was being done



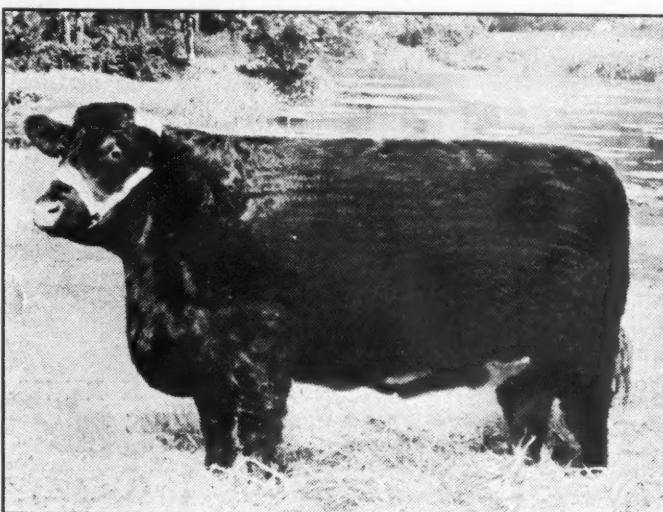
MODEL SHORTHORN BULL

by many manufacturing concerns, by allowing time payments. Our information was that every agreement to pay was being met promptly.

The prospect of sales of our cattle to Russia now is of interest, since we are advised that, as a result of visits and tours of inspection of our herds by representatives from Soviet Russia and the Amtorg Trading Corporation, its New York fiscal agents, our registered beef herds generally met approval, and that conditions of climate and care in a good-sized area of the United States correspond with those of the parts of Russia where the cattle would be taken. General freedom of herds here from tuberculosis is another thing.

Should the mission of Senator Brookhart result in revival of negotiations that are finally consummated, this export trade will go a long way toward improved prices, which are still badly needed by the rank and file of our breeders.

Good breeding—I mean breeding backed up by show-yard winnings in the near ancestry—in the bulls used in



MODEL SHORTHORN COW

commercial herds is what is giving to this country the great number of quality beef cattle on our markets. Other countries will find here in our breeders' productions what they need in order to duplicate our beef steer.

Through the accompanying illustrations the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association sponsors the approved type of Shorthorn. These models have been adopted after submitting to a number of institutions, breeders, and judges several photographs of recent champion bulls and females, and receiving from each criticisms and suggestions for a composite that would represent the most generally approved present-day type of Shorthorn. Photographs used were of roan bulls and red cows, without attempt to make use of the remaining standard colors within the breed—white and red-and-white—in perfecting the composites.

FORBES JOINS PACKER INSTITUTE

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 14, E. F. FORBES, OF MARYSVILLE, California, has tendered his resignation as president of the California Cattlemen's Association and the Western Cattle Marketing Association, to become director of the recently organized Western Division of the Institute of American Meat Packers. The territory covered by this division will be the region west of the Rocky Mountains. Headquarters will be at San Francisco, with branch offices in Los Angeles and Seattle. In connection with the application of the code of fair trade practices which is to govern the operations of the meat industry under the Agricultural Adjustment and Industrial Recovery Acts, the operations of the Institute will be largely extended, and will in many ways have a direct bearing upon live-stock affairs.

Mr. Forbes has been at the head of the two California organizations since December, 1929. Under his leadership, they have successfully weathered the storms of the past few years, the business of the marketing association having shown continued growth, in spite of conditions. Philip A. Klipstein, of Bakersfield, has been chosen to succeed Mr. Forbes as president.

FURTHER CATTLE SURPLUS THREATENED

WITH A FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN cattle and calf slaughter necessary if killings are to keep pace with production, and thus prevent another expansion in cattle numbers, stimulated consumer purchasing power and improved demand for beef are required before cattle prices can recover from their present low levels.

The accompanying "balance-sheets," taken from material prepared by F. W. Beier, Jr., of the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates of the Department of Agriculture, for the recent live-stock conference in Denver, indicate that cattle and calf slaughter in 1933 would have to be about 3,300,000 head above that of 1932 if the number of cattle on farms at the end of this year is not to show a further increase. Up to the first of August the number of cattle and calves slaughtered under federal inspection was only 382,000 head over the number slaughtered during the corresponding period of 1932. As there undoubtedly also was some accession to other slaughter, the total increase might reach 500,000 head. There is little likelihood, however, that slaughter during the rest of 1933 will be extended sufficiently to prevent another material addition to our cattle population.

The "balance-sheet" for 1932, as shown below, is based upon estimates by the Department of Agriculture of the items of increase and decrease in 1932, which resulted in a net increase in numbers of 2,473,000 head between January 1, 1932, and January 1, 1933. The "balance-sheet" for 1933 proceeds upon the assumption that the number of calves born per 100 cows during the current year will be the same as in 1932, that farm and local slaughter will be the same, and that the percentage of death losses of cattle and calves will remain stationary. Under these conditions, then, combined inspected and other wholesale slaughter would have to amount to 18,575,000 head if there is to be no increase in total cattle numbers during the year.

JANUARY 1, 1932, TO JANUARY 1, 1933

Supplies on hand January 1, 1932.....	62,656,000
Calves born during year (78.3 per cent of 34,235,000 cows).....	26,794,000
Total	89,450,000
Inspected slaughter of cattle and calves.....	12,118,000
Other wholesale slaughter.....	3,154,000
Local slaughter	3,553,000
Farm slaughter	1,800,000
Death losses	3,696,000
Total	24,321,000
On hand January 1, 1933.....	65,129,000
Grand total	89,450,000

JANUARY 1, 1933, TO JANUARY 1, 1934

Supplies on hand January 1, 1933.....	65,129,000
Calves to be born during year (78.3 per cent of 35,437,000 cows).....	27,757,000
Total (estimated)	92,886,000
Inspected and other wholesale slaughter necessary to take care of increase*.....	18,575,000
Local slaughter (same as in 1932).....	3,553,000
Farm slaughter (same as in 1932).....	1,800,000
Death losses (same percentage as in 1932).....	3,829,000
Total	27,757,000
On hand January 1, 1934.....	65,129,000
Grand total	92,886,000

*The equivalent of the balance of the calf crop if the numbers of cattle and calves do not show another increase on January 1, 1934.

FISHERY PRODUCTS

A SURVEY OF FISHERY PRODUCTS HAS BEEN COMPLETED by the Tariff Commission, with a view to possible tariff adjustments under the flexible provisions of the Tariff Act, giving the President the power, after investigation by the commission, to raise or lower import duties up to 50 per cent.

In addition to special sections on particular products, the survey gives a broad view of fishery problems as a whole. We are told that world production of fish amounts to about 23,000,000,000 pounds a year. Of this, the United States, Norway, and the British Isles each supply approximately 10 per cent, Russia almost twice as much, and Japan four times as much. In the United States many kinds of fish are thrown overboard because there is no market for them. Of the quantity landed, about one-fourth is not used for edible purposes, but is converted into oil, meal, and fertilizer.

There are 78,000 vessels engaged in the United States fisheries, 40,000 of which are power vessels. Fishermen employed number 124,000, and workers in coastal fish factories, 86,000. Total investment in the industry is about \$300,000,000.

In the period from 1908 to 1930 the domestic catch of all fishery products in the United States increased 56 per cent in quantity and 66 per cent in value. Of the total consumption in 1930, about 20 per cent was supplied by imports. At present the value of imports exceeds that of exports by about 280 per cent.

Between 1908 and 1930, annual consumption of food fish in the United States advanced from 15 to 18 pounds per capita, compared with a consumption of meat of land animals amounting to 150 pounds in 1908 and 132 pounds in 1930. In the competition between meat and fish, fish is under the disadvantages of (1) violent fluctuations in price, caused by variations in the runs; (2) concentration of distribution to meet the heavy demand on Friday; (3) large supplies early in the week, without a market to absorb them; (4) high perishability.

In addition to competition between fish and meat of land animals, there is competition between fish oil and tallow, principally as ingredients of soap, and between fish meal and tankage, mainly as animal and poultry feed and fertilizer.

OLEOMARGARINE LEGISLATION

AS MOST STATE ASSEMBLIES HAVE NOW ADJourned for the year, there is little new to report in the field of margarine legislation. In only a few states has any action been taken in recent months:

California.—After Governor Rolph had vetoed the bill putting a tax of 8 cents a pound on margarine not made wholly from domestic products, a plan by the Legislature, in special session, to pass the bill over his veto was finally abandoned.

Kentucky.—A three-judge federal court sitting in Louisville has granted a permanent injunction against enforcement of the law placing a tax of 10 cents a pound on margarine. The attorney-general is preparing to appeal the case to the Supreme Court of the state.

Oregon.—The law imposing a tax of 4 cents a pound on all margarine, enacted by the last Legislature, was defeated at a popular referendum on July 21, making the fourth such law to be killed in this way.

It is reported that a large number of margarine factories in Europe have abandoned the use of milk. A product containing no bacteria has been found to keep better.

ATTITUDE OF PUBLIC TOWARD CATTLE-STEALING

IN LAST MONTH'S "PRODUCER" WE PRINTED AN address by E. G. Wilkinson, of Milesville, South Dakota, on the subject of "Law Enforcement," delivered before the convention of the Western South Dakota Stock Growers' Association at Rapid City in June. That Mr. Wilkinson is not alone in his pessimistic reflections on the attitude of the average community toward the law-breaker is evidenced by a letter written by Frank S. Boice, of Sonoita, Arizona, to the *Weekly Market Report and News Letter* sent out by the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association. Mr. Boice says in part:

"I cannot help thinking of the struggle ahead of those two cow women in their prosecution of these cases [referring to certain cases of cattle theft, mentioned in a previous issue of the *News Letter*]. They will find that the home community is either indifferent or antagonistic; that good cowmen will refuse to assist the prosecution; that men who know the facts will refuse to testify. When the defense puts on its case, they will be surprised at its nature, irritated by the clever distortions of the truth, and made fighting mad by the vile insinuations as to the purpose of the prosecution. And when it is over, whether there is a conviction or an acquittal, they will often wonder who was tried—they or the defendant."

"This is no new development. It has always been that way in the past. The man being tried, and his friends, are working night and day to prejudice the public in his favor and against the prosecution. And they seldom stick to facts. The good cowmen of the community, with very few exceptions, have the mistaken idea that they 'cannot afford to take sides,' and the good people of the community listen to the one who talks loudest and longest. . . .

"My purpose in writing this is to show that the blame for this condition rests squarely on the cattlemen themselves. Whenever there is any stealing going on, you as a cattleman in that community know who is doing the stealing; and you know, when he is arrested, who his alibi men will be. You curse them in private. How do you treat them in public? Remember, the public judges them by your attitude toward them. . . .

"Do you joke with your neighbor about eating stolen beef? What does the uninformed public think when it hears you? As long as we joke about cow-stealing, and treat the cow-thief as a 'good fellow,' just so long will the prosecution of cow-thieves be an up-hill fight."

"It is an up-hill fight, but I do not think it is a hopeless one. Without a guilty plea, the chances of sending a cow-thief to the pen have been rather slim in the past. . . . But that is not the whole story. The lawyer who keeps him out of the pen never forgets to send in his bill. The manufactured evidence must be paid for, and the alibi men may easily become blood-suckers that are hard to get rid of. Prosecution, even without conviction, is worth while, because it makes cow-stealing unprofitable."

"It is a terrible thing to have to admit that the protection of the cattle industry from theft depends very largely upon making stealing unprofitable, rather than upon conviction of the thieves. But it is a fact. And this condition will continue until such time as the cattlemen themselves make the cow-thief an outcast in his community, and work together enthusiastically to see that he gets the punishment which he so richly deserves."

NORTHWESTERN STOCKMEN DEBATE DRESSED-MEAT RATES

STOCKMEN FROM THE FOUR STATES OF WASHINGTON, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, meeting in Spokane on August 23, formed a new organization, to be known as the Pacific Northwest Live Stock Interests Association, which will deal with problems of particular concern to that region. One of the subjects discussed at the gathering was that of

rates on westbound shipments of dressed meats. It was decided to appoint three committees—one of producers, one of meat-packers, and one of stock-yard representatives—to handle this matter. A resolution was passed calling upon all factors in the live-stock industry of the West to give financial support to the staff of the Farm Rate Council and the Northwestern Live Stock Shippers' Traffic League which is conducting the defense against the efforts of Corn Belt packing interests to have the Interstate Commerce Commission lower rates on dressed meats and other packing-house products into the population centers of the Mountain-Pacific Territory, to the detriment of live-stock producers of that region.

Amendments to the proposed marketing agreement submitted by the Institute of American Meat Packers, designed to fit conditions in the Northwest, were adopted, and an agreement was framed for this region in the event that the government approves regional set-ups.

* * *

Hearings on the dressed-meat-rate cases (Docket No. 23604) have been set for September 6 at Chicago, September 20 at Seattle, September 25 at San Francisco, and October 2 at Los Angeles.

OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION URGES HELP FOR CATTLE INDUSTRY

IN A RESOLUTION PASSED AT A MEETING HELD by the Northeast Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association in Dewey on August 17, to discuss the depressed condition of the industry, it is pointed out that cattle prices at present average \$2 less per hundredweight than a year ago. The market season for range cattle is now at hand, the resolution declares, and it is imperative that something be done at once. The President of the United States and the Secretary of Agriculture are called upon to devise means of rescuing the industry from the disaster with which it is threatened, similar to the steps taken in aid of wheat- and cotton-growers. It is suggested that Mr. Wallace invite the heads of cattlemen's organizations throughout the country to confer with him at the earliest possible date.

W. F. Friend is president of this association, and W. J. Dancer secretary.

COMMISSION AND YARDAGE RATES

ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE BY THE DENVER Live Stock Exchange that it will seek authority from the Packers and Stock Yards Administration to increase commissions to a basis of \$18 per car for cattle and sheep. Inasmuch as that government agency has recently ordered much lower rates at St. Louis and Kansas City, it is anticipated that the application for higher rates at Denver will be rejected, and a formal hearing ordered. Audit for use at such a hearing has already been completed.

Letters have been sent to President Roosevelt by members of the Kansas City Live Stock Exchange, expressing their willingness to participate in a code under NRA, provided the recent order of the Secretary of Agriculture reducing commissions at that market by 20 per cent is modified.

Notice has been given by the Secretary of Agriculture that a hearing will be held at Sioux City, Iowa, beginning September 25, 1933, before an examiner of the Packers and Stock Yards Administration, for the purpose of determining the lawfulness of rates and charges in effect at the stock-yards at that place.

GRAZING-EN-ROUTE TAX HELD VOID

IN 1899 A LAW WAS PASSED IN KANSAS PROVIDING that personal property brought into the state after March 1 (the regular assessment date), which acquired an actual situs before September 1, should be taxable. The object of the act was to prevent vendors of bankrupt stocks of goods from setting themselves up in competition with regular merchants, escaping taxation by remaining only a short time. A few years ago the State Tax Commission ordered the application of the law to all property—including cattle—brought into the state after March 1, except that, under a decision of the State Supreme Court, it was not applicable to residents of the state.

A test suit, brought by a Texas cattleman, has just been decided in his favor by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, sitting at Denver. The court held that, in discriminating between residents and non-residents, the statute became repugnant to the equality-of-privileges section of the federal constitution.

While the Kansas law has since been amended so that no such discrimination is now attempted, the decision is of unusual interest in guaranteeing in other states equal rights to the non-resident cattle-owner as compared with the resident.

CORRECTING MEAT-RETAILING ABUSES ON PACIFIC COAST

FOR SOME TIME THE PACIFIC LIVE STOCK AND Meat Institute, with the co-operation of the San Francisco Better Business Bureau, has been conducting a campaign of law enforcement in the selling of meat at retail, with the object particularly of correcting the evil of short weights. Recently this effort was given additional support through passage by the City Council of San Francisco of an ordinance requiring that "all meat, advertised or sold, or offered for sale, at any place of business, . . . shall be advertised and sold by weight." If meat is price-tagged by the piece, the price per pound shall be plainly shown.

THE CALENDAR

- September 19-20, 1933—Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Casper, Wyo.
- October 2-8, 1933—Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa.
- October 21-28, 1933—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Ore.
- November 11-17, 1933—Ak-Sar-Ben Live Stock Show, Omaha, Neb.
- November 13-16, 1933—Kansas National Live Stock Show, Wichita, Kan.
- November 18-25, 1933—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.
- December 2-7, 1933—Great Western Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.
- December 2-9, 1933—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
- December 8-9, 1933—Annual Convention of California Cattlemen's Association and Western Cattle Marketing Association, San Francisco, Cal.
- January 9, 1934—Annual Convention of New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association, Albuquerque, N. M.
- January 10, 1934—Annual Convention of New Mexico Wool Growers' Association, Albuquerque, N. M.
- January 10-12, 1934—Thirty-seventh Annual Convention of American National Live Stock Association, Albuquerque, N. M.
- March 10-19, 1934—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.
- March 20-22, 1934—Annual Convention of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, San Antonio, Tex.

THE PRODUCER

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Volume XV SEPTEMBER, 1933 Number 4

PROGRESS IN TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION

IN 1917 THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY, co-operating with state sanitary officials, with the object of cleaning up the nation's milk supply and protecting the health of our people, began the huge task of tuberculin-testing dairy herds in the field. By 1920 the work was well under way, 700,670 cattle being tested in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920. Of this number, 4.1 per cent reacted. For every 100,000 of our human population in 1920 there were 97 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis and 17 deaths from other forms of the disease. For the fiscal year ending in 1931, 13,782,273 cattle were tested, of which 1.5 per cent reacted, while the death-rate per 100,000 of human population had fallen to 60.7 from respiratory tuberculosis and 7.5 from other forms.

Turning to the records obtained from packing-houses where slaughter is under federal supervision, it is noted that, as recently as the fiscal year ending in 1926, 1.41 per cent of the cattle slaughtered, exclusive of known reactors, were retained for further examination, of which 0.36 per cent of the total number inspected were condemned. For the fiscal year

1932 this had dwindled to 0.49 per cent retained and 0.1 per cent condemned. The following year (1933), 0.42 per cent were retained and 0.08 per cent condemned.

In hogs, 14 per cent were retained in 1926 and 0.16 per cent condemned. In 1933, 10.5 per cent were retained and 0.08 per cent condemned.

It is, indeed, gratifying to note that the battle is being won. The continued decline in reactors and condemnations clearly shows that the intensive campaign in the dairy centers, where infection has been the heaviest, such as New York and California, is finally bringing the desired result.

Likewise, it tends to prove the contention, which the West has made for years, that the problem is largely one of cleaning up cattle handled under barnyard conditions, and that the disease does not develop under range conditions, or in the range country, except as infected animals are allowed to be brought in. Stop the importation of dairy or breeding animals, unless properly tested; complete the job of testing where the disease thrives—and the big job is done. In practically every instance where tuberculosis has been discovered in range or semi-range herds the disease has been traced to the importation of breeding stock. Most of the early outbreaks were in states where dual-purpose cattle were shipped in from eastern states and allowed to run in a semi-range country. The shipments, some years ago, of diseased cattle into twenty-eight different states, for which one man finally served time in a penal institution, fill a black page in the history of our animal husbandry.

The West, at the conference with the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association last December, offered to co-operate in a scheme for expediting the work in range areas, by combining the field testing of barnyard stock with a check on range herds, obtained through the study of packing-house records as shipments were made. The Bureau of Animal Industry has informed us that all is in readiness at the major markets for resuming the work begun last year during the range shipping season at our request. Live-stock associations, brand inspectors, and commission men are co-operating to make it a success. It is confidently believed that the results will reinforce the showing and the arguments made a year ago, and that, taken with the rapid decline in cattle retained or reacting at packing-houses or in the field testing, there will remain no fair or sound objection to the plan proposed by the West. The more speedily this plan is accepted, the sooner will tuberculosis eradication in this country be placed on a permanent basis which will forever keep the disease under the closest possible control and in time assure its virtual elimination from our herds.

WANTED—A NEW DEAL FOR THE LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY

THE "NEW DEAL" IS ON EVERYBODY'S tongue. NRA banners are posted in the windows of every business house; they are hanging in many homes; they adorn automobiles that dash past you. But so far the live-stock industry, instead of sharing in this national recovery which is being so widely advertised, finds itself between the horns of a dilemma, in part created by the various business-recovery moves.

First—When the program of inflation was launched and speculation was rife in the commodity markets, feed-grain prices shot up so rapidly that thousands of hogs were dumped in June and July, swamping the dressed-meat trade and demoralizing the markets.

Second—Uncertainty as to grain prices and finances, together with the threat of processing taxes, is causing hesitation on the part of Corn Belt feeder-buyers.

Third—For no good reason at all, cottonseed-cake prices advanced about \$15 a ton when the acreage-reduction program on cotton got under way. Two-thirds of the increase has since been lost, as stockmen could not pay close to \$40, delivered, for cake, with live stock at present prices. With short hay crops, supplements are badly needed, but can be bought only if prices are within reach.

Fourth—The Interstate Commerce Commission refused to lower freight rates in Docket 26000, citing advancing commodity prices as removing the need for any reduction, and completely ignoring the fact that live-stock prices have not gone up.

Fifth—The examiner's report in Docket 25449 recommends a charge of \$15 a car for the privilege of selling live stock in transit. It makes no claim that the railroads perform any service to entitle them to this bonus, as regular switching charges apply in addition. Presumably, as in the case of the drunken man who was asked why he threw a brick through the window, it must have seemed like a good idea to the examiner at the time he wrote the report, although he forgot to give any reason for the charge. No doubt, in the spirit of NRA, he felt obliged to do something nice for the railroads. Just how anyone who listened to the testimony of many representative live-stock producers in this case, each stressing the impoverished condition of the industry, could arrive at the erroneous conclusion that the industry still had \$15 a car which someone else had not already appropriated, must forever remain a mystery.

Sixth—The Secretary of the Interior orders a "New Deal" in Arizona and New Mexico by insisting

that all fences inclosing public lands must be removed. It would seem that the industry had enough to contend with now, without hunting through the statute-books of fifty years ago for obsolete laws with which to harass it, *especially when no one will be benefited thereby.*

Seventh—Retail prices in all lines, including meat, are advancing, as the profiteers gaily line up. Cost sheets are thrown aside, and margins are made as big as the traffic will bear. Live-stock prices have not risen; so there is not a shred of real support for the increased retail meat prices.

How long the live-stock industry will be asked to hold the bag remains to be seen. Patient and long-suffering though it be, there is a limit to human endurance. Today NRA to the live-stock industry appears to mean "No Relief Allowed." Let us pass the "New Deal" around, and make its benefits apparent to all, instead of permitting it to be improperly used to add to burdens already too heavy to bear.

LET THE DRIFT-FENCES STAND!

SO FAR THE PROTESTS AGAINST THE order of the Secretary of the Interior to remove the drift-fences from the public domain have been of no avail. Mr. Ickes seems adamant in his determination that the law must be enforced, regardless of consequences.

In principle, most people will agree that a law should be either observed or repealed—this in spite of the fact that the statute-books of every state in the Union are encumbered with a lot of obsolete or unenforceable acts which everybody ignores, including those sworn to uphold them, in the interest of common-sense or the common welfare. But for the government now to dig up a measure like this old fence law, passed half a century ago under totally different conditions, and insist that its terms be carried out to the letter, when no serious attempt at enforcement has been made during all that time, when the difficulties which it was intended to solve have practically solved themselves, and when such enforcement today would demonstrably profit few, if any, but, on the contrary, would be detrimental to wide interests—the government with its loan and disease-control activities, the individual stockmen using the range, their herds, and the range itself—this is distinctly a horse of a different color.

How ill-considered this move on the part of the Department of the Interior really is, and how manifold and sound the reasons for opposing it, is set out in the resolutions adopted at the recent conference in Denver, printed elsewhere in these columns. The point to be stressed, however, is that this sudden

revival of a moribund piece of legislation appears particularly unfortunate in times like the present, when the cattlemen of the West are struggling, against disheartening odds, to keep from being engulfed in the economic quicksands, when any added expense becomes an unbearable burden, and when there is a prospect that Congress within a few months will take up the whole public-domain question, including the fences, for final disposal. Having winked at the violation of the law for fifty years, who would be hurt if the gentlemen at Washington turned their optics in another direction for four short months more?

STOCKMEN, ORGANIZE!

THE LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY WAS THE first organized industry in the West. Several of the existing associations are from fifty to sixty years old. But the record through the years has shown that the rank and file of stockmen have given their organizations only spasmodic support, relapsing into a state of complete reliance on self when the road was smooth, banding together to fight common battles when the going got tough.

In the pioneer days, the fight for range control, for ordered round-ups, and for the need of protection against the cattle-thief led to the organization of strong associations in the several sections of the West. Twenty years or so later the need for unified action in national matters, and improved service and lower rates on the railroads, led to the organization of the American National Live Stock Association. Another fifteen years, and unsatisfactory conditions at the central markets brought a great rally in the industry. At a meeting held in El Paso in 1913, many stockmen pledged from \$500 to \$1,000 each to finance the "Market Committee," to employ eminent counsel in the person of Walter E. Fisher, outstanding attorney of Chicago, and to press for the passage of the Packers and Stock Yards Act.

Today the cattle industry faces another great emergency. The low prices which have prevailed for corn the past two years have so stimulated hog production, just as the export outlet for pork products has been seriously curtailed, that the hog-producer bids fair to ruin, not only his own business, but the cattle industry as well. Beef consumption in 1932 was the lowest on record, yet prices have been pulled down to disastrously low levels by the weight of excess pork on the market. Some 2,100,000 more hogs were slaughtered in June and July this year than in the same months a year ago. The situation is further aggravated by serious drought conditions in many sections, and by rising prices on things that stockmen must buy, especially cottonseed cake and

other feeds. Inflation, which has been responsible for such price increases in many lines, *so far has not been able to budge live-stock prices under heavy current marketings.*

A great meeting of stockmen was held in Denver August 13, 14, and 15 to consider steps to improve the situation. A full account of the meeting, the resolutions, and committee reports adopted are found elsewhere in this issue.

The Committee of Five, formed to negotiate with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, is an unusually strong and able body, and is entitled to the moral support of every cattleman. It also should be well financed, so that it can remain on the job as long as may be necessary. *Are you doing your share today in keeping your organizations—local, state, and national—functioning in your interest, or are you letting your neighbor, hit just as hard as you, carry a double burden?* Bootblacks, manicure girls, barbers—in fact, every recognized trade—are organizing today to see that their interests are protected under the far-reaching laws enacted by the special session of Congress. Waitresses pay in annual dues between three and four times the amount of the minimum fees required by the American National. If the live-stock industry fails to receive its share in the final working-out of the "New Deal," it will be because its individual members lay down on the job, and neglected to provide its organizations and its committees with the sinews of war. It is said that an army fights on its belly; but in these fast-moving days it takes cold cash for any organization to function effectively. Them that has, gits; them that hasn't, don't!

Peter H. Goesling

PETER H. GOESLING, A PROMINENT SHEEPMAN of New Mexico, died at his home near Datil on July 26, 1933, at the age of sixty-five. Born in Herford, Germany, Mr. Goesling emigrated to the United States in 1882, engaging in the sheep business in Texas and Oklahoma. Later he went to Colorado, and thence to Arizona, finally settling in Catron County, on the Continental Divide in western New Mexico. He had many friends throughout the Southwest.

Great Britain Further Restricts Quotas

Additional quota restrictions on imports of hams and bacon have been announced by the British government, effective September 15. The amounts allotted to the United States and Denmark have been reduced.

Deer Destroying New Zealand Pastures

In New Zealand, where European deer were introduced a number of years ago, the animals have become so numerous as to constitute such a pest that hunters have been given practically a free hand in exterminating them.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

DIRECT MARKETING IN GREAT BRITAIN

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—In their warfare against direct marketing, the live-stock exchanges of this country have often referred to conditions in Great Britain, where this practice is alleged to be prohibited by law. That this is an erroneous assumption was shown in an editorial printed in our August issue. The facts in the matter are further set forth in the following letter from our London correspondent, Joseph Raymond, whose position as editor of *Modern Meat Marketing* and close touch with conditions in the trade lend authoritative weight to his utterances.]

LONDON, August 15, 1933.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Direct marketing of live stock appears to be the present aim both of the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Farmers' Union, although the producers themselves are not unanimously in favor of the change. For one thing, by sending their stock to the ordinary auction markets, they receive long credits from the auctioneers and their agents, and the farmers feel that, if they take their business in live stock away from the auctioneers, these long credit terms in respect of other farm produce will be discontinued.

Direct sales, of course, are another prop to the ministry's plans for establishing centralized slaughtering in this country—a move to which the meat trade is opposed, while the rank and file in the farming industry are showing signs of opposition, chiefly on the ground of the expense incurred in sending stock to distant markets only to find, on arrival, that the market in that area is already well supplied.

The pig-marketing scheme, approved by the government and now awaiting the result of the farmers' poll, will eliminate competition in the auction-ring; for it distinctly encourages sales direct to the bacon-curers at a guaranteed minimum price.

In regard to cattle and sheep, the Ministry of Agriculture has attempted two or three direct sales during the present summer, with some measure of success, although it has been pointed out that in each instance the price obtained at these sales for the best-grade animals would have been higher, owing to their quality, had they been sold in the ordinary way.

There is no truth in the allegation that legislation exists in England to prevent slaughter stock being sold save on the recognized markets. The producer, at the moment, has a free hand, and can dispose of his stock as he thinks fit. The only thing approaching such legislation is in the form of local by-laws operating where there are municipally owned markets, which state that all cattle entering the markets must be weighed and put up for sale by auction. Even in this there seems to be no unanimity; for at most of these centers the farmers are given the option of withdrawing their stock before it enters the sale-ring. This latter concession has been granted by a few local authorities as a move against the alleged "illegal" rings formed by the butchers. There is a generally accepted law that

sales should not take place before a certain hour of the day at these markets, but it is merely in accordance with the local by-laws governing the conduct of the market.

Both the butchers and the bacon-curers here carry out a certain amount of direct marketing, but many farmers themselves prefer the open competition of the markets. There is no actual legislation to prevent this.

Model by-laws for the regulation of certain publicly owned markets are issued by the Ministry of Health, and provide, among other things, for fixing the days and hours during each day on which the market shall be held. Owners of statutory markets and fairs usually possess power, under their own acts, to make by-laws, but the private owner of a common-law market or fair has, as such, no power to make by-laws, and his regulations with regard to the use of the market or fair cannot be enforced either by fine or imprisonment. During the war, markets were subjected to numerous orders, issued under the Defence of the Realm Act, some of which prohibited direct sales of live stock, under the rationing of food and the government control of live-stock scheme, but with the cessation of hostilities these orders were gradually withdrawn and have left no permanent impression on the laws governing the markets.

There are 961 live-stock markets in England and Wales. Of these, 224 are publicly controlled—145 by borough councils and 71 by urban district councils. About the beginning of the nineteenth century there was a tendency for dealers and butchers to short-circuit the markets and buy direct from neighboring farmers, who, for their part, were thus saved the payment of tolls and other market charges. In order to arrest this evasion of tolls, laws were enforced against "forestallers" or "engrossers" who bought produce on its way to market, but these laws were actually repealed. In Nottinghamshire, for example, it is estimated that the proportion of store cattle, milk cows, sheep, and pigs that pass through the hands of dealers and go direct from farm to farm, or from dealers' land to farms, or to the butcher, is about 20 per cent. There are districts where the percentage is even higher. In Scotland and the north of England the proportion would probably not greatly exceed 10 per cent.

In certain areas it is noticeable that wholesale butchers are steadily increasing their purchases from farmers direct. In fact, a number of live-stock markets have become insignificant from the point of view of supplies.

In publicly owned markets there is alleged to be undue competition for private dealing, but just as a local authority cannot forbid auctions, so it cannot forbid private dealing, and therefore dealers can come to market early and make their purchases before the time specified for the auction sale to begin. In a private market, as a rule, no selling is possible before the advertised time, and all buyers are given an equal opportunity.

JOSEPH RAYMOND.

SHIPPING LIVE STOCK BY ZONES

SHAMBO, MONT., August 5, 1933.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Lately I have seen articles in the newspapers stating that beef steers were 40 per cent higher than a year ago. The fact of the matter is, I think, that cattle prices in Chicago today are lower than they have been since 1908.

People generally, and stockmen in particular, fail to realize that every industry and distributing agency except agriculture is organized. Farmers buy from groups organized to sell to them, and sell to groups organized to buy from them. I believe direct selling is favorable to group buying, and I am opposed to it. The habit of dumping cattle on Monday's and Tuesday's markets also favors the groups.

Some time ago I suggested a method of orderly marketing by dividing the states into four sections; the first section to load so as to reach Monday's market, the second Tuesday's, the third Wednesday's, and the fourth Thursday's, leaving Friday and Saturday on which to clean up.

Another detriment is the group control of our legislative assemblies. That continuously keeps adding to our tax burden. There is no political unity among agricultural people. Each state should have a federated legislative council, composed of all agricultural classes. This would help, as we have to overthrow the system which is making paupers of us all. We really are in a desperate situation.

JOHN THOMPSON.

HOW TO AVOID OVERPRODUCTION OF CATTLE

NEW MEADOWS, IDA., August 28, 1933.

TO THE PRODUCER:

At the meeting of stockmen in Denver, August 14 and 15, several theories were advanced as to how the Secretary of Agriculture or the cattlemen should dispose of the surplus dairy cows and old cows which have accumulated while prices have been too low to justify shipping them.

I am confident that the "Committee of Five" appointed to confer with the Secretary of Agriculture will originate some emergency plan whereby this surplus may be absorbed. Such action will help for the time being, but I feel that we cattlemen must see to it that we do not again find ourselves facing the same problem of overproduction.

It seems to me that the cattle-growers might work out an agreement with the governmental agencies which are loaning money on cattle, whereby the borrower would be required either to spay or to sell for slaughter a certain percentage of heifer calves and yearling heifers before they reproduce. This, I think, would keep the production nearer in line with the demand.

ALBERT CAMPBELL.

THE NEW LIVE-STOCK ORGANIZATION

KIT CARSON, COLO., September 1, 1933.

TO THE PRODUCER:

This new United States Live Stock Association, which is being boosted by the live-stock exchange and stock-yard interests, is just another of those wolf-in-sheep-pelt schemes. It is not needed at all, and producers of live stock had better fight shy of it. We have had the American National Live Stock Association for more than a quarter of a century. It has, loyally and unselfishly, served the best interests of the live-stock industry, and has done all that could be done.

The main purpose of the new organization is just to fight direct shipping and country buying by packers and feeder-buyers. For several years the live-stock exchanges and stock-yard interests have been using all kinds of devices to stop direct shipping. They have been telling the people, with tears in their eyes, how sorry they were to see them losing so much money, and how the packers were playing tricks on the farmers. But, when it comes to playing tricks, the packers have a long way to go to catch up with the commission men. As for myself, I never have shipped or sold direct to a packer. I have been patronizing the public stock-yards for about forty-five years. I have seen a big lot of "shenanigans" going on, and I have been the "sucker" myself a good many times.

Those live-stock exchanges have built their organizations into the most iron-clad trust that ever existed. They talk so much about their open, competitive market. However, no individual or independent concern can do business on any of those stock-yards. Some years ago, when the Farmers' Union and the Producers' Commission Association started out independently at Kansas City, those good friends of ours, the old-line commission men, put into effect such a perfect boycott that the independents had either to sign up and join the big family, or else quit business. The main object of this new organization is to gain more power, so that they may be able to lobby through Congress some kind of law providing that, if Farmer Smith wants to sell a calf to his neighbor Jones, he will have to pay somebody a commission.

The live-stock exchanges are just as blind fighting direct shipping as the railroads are fighting truck competition. Both have spent lots of money and tried all sorts of plans lobbying laws through Congress. In spite of that, trucking and direct shipping are still on the increase. There is only one way for the railroads and the commission men to get their business back, and that is by cutting rates down in line with the prices for which agricultural products and live stock are selling. Last year, when certain classes of live stock and other products did not fetch enough to pay freight, commission charges, etc., the railroads were still calling for higher rates.

C. J. OSWALD.

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WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

CATTLE OUTLOOK

LARGER MARKETINGS OF CATTLE THAN A YEAR earlier are in prospect during the next twelve months, but will include fewer of the better-finished kinds and more of the lower grades, according to the summer cattle outlook report issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Although the number of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt on August 1 was about 13 per cent greater than on that date last year, total marketings of fed cattle during the remainder of 1933 probably will not be greatly different from those of the corresponding period of 1932, as the short supplies and relatively high prices of feed will tend to restrict further purchases of feeder animals.

Unfavorable range and pasture conditions, it is expected, will cause an increase in the marketing of grass cattle this fall, compared with a year earlier, and because of reduced feeder demand a larger proportion of these cattle will be slaughtered. Supplies of the better grades of fed cattle during the first half of 1934 will be considerably smaller than in the first half of 1933.

Moderate improvement in consumer demand for beef has been in evidence in recent months, per-capita consumption of federally inspected beef and veal for the first seven months of 1933 being 6.5 per cent larger than for the corresponding period in 1932. Further improvement will depend upon continued increase in consumer buying power. Demand for beef during the remainder of 1933 will be adversely affected to some extent by the unusually large supplies of other meats available.

Cattle have been increasing in number since 1928, and the number of breeding stock now on farms and ranges is the largest ever reached in this country. With present numbers of cows, the annual output of cattle and calves is equal to the largest yearly slaughter of such stock on record. The increase in cattle numbers thus far, however, has only recently been reflected in increased cattle slaughter. In previous cattle-production cycles slaughter increased for about three years before the expansion in numbers was checked.

ELIMINATING HOG SURPLUS

PURCHASE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF A MAXIMUM of 4,000,000 pigs weighing from 25 up to 100 pounds, and of 1,000,000 sows weighing not less than 275 pounds and soon to farrow, at premium prices, is the first step in the emergency plan of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to establish such balance between production and consumption of hog products, and such marketing conditions, as will raise hog prices to their pre-war (1909-14) relationship with prices on things that the farmer must buy. Buying

operations, conducted through "specified processors" acquiring the hogs from regular market agencies, began at a number of public stock-yards on August 23, and will end on October 1.

For the pigs, a price ranging from \$6 per cwt. for the heaviest weights to \$9.50 per cwt. for the lightest is paid. The bonus on the sows is \$4 per head—this in addition to the regular market price on the day of sale. Edible products derived from the slaughter will be taken over by the Emergency Relief Administration for distribution among needy families. Inedible products will be disposed of as grease and fertilizer through the usual channels.

By this measure it is estimated that potential marketings of hogs during the marketing year beginning October 1 will be reduced by 16 per cent. The second portion of the benefit bestowed on the farmer by the plan will come in the form of higher prices for the remainder of the crop sold during 1933-34, as a result of taking this volume out of the market.

Financing of this program, to cost approximately \$55,000,000, will be through a processing tax on hogs for domestic consumption. The amount of the initial tax will be fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture, but is understood to be about one-half cent per pound, live weight. A hearing on the processing tax was held at Washington on September 5.

It is emphasized by Secretary Wallace that "this short-time immediate plan arose from the grass roots," and is based on recommendations made by hog- and corn-producers, packers, and commission men, following a series of state and national conferences. The secretary frankly declares that the plan is bound to prove ruinous unless some successful method of controlling future corn and hog production can be worked out.

WHEAT-ACREAGE REDUCTION

AGREEMENT HAS FINALLY BEEN REACHED AT the World Wheat Conference in London. The principal exporting nations—the United States, Canada, Argentina, Australia, and Russia, with the Danubian states—bind themselves to restrict their combined wheat exports during the 1933-34 crop year to a maximum of 560,000,000 bushels, to be allotted among the contracting countries. In 1934-35, through decreased production or otherwise, they are further to reduce this quantity by 15 per cent. In the event conditions change materially, provision is made for increasing the export figure. Importing nations, in their turn, agree not to take advantage of higher prices by encouraging expansion of their wheat acreage during the two years the agreement runs. If for a period of four months the world price reaches or exceeds 63.02 gold cents a bushel—equivalent to 84 cents at the present exchange value of the dollar—they are to seek lower wheat tariffs from their parliaments.

The agreement, which, it is hoped, will go far toward

September, 1933

THE PRODUCER

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liquidating the world's wheat surplus, estimated at 640,000,000 bushels, is subject to parliamentary sanction in many of the countries involved.

* * *

Having waited for the outcome at London before announcing definite figures for the domestic reduction, Secretary Wallace on August 29 asked United States wheat-farmers to cut their acreage 15 per cent for the next crop year. This plan, according to Mr. Wallace, will affect approximately 1,200,000 growers, reduce sowings this fall by 9,600,000 acres, and lower the 1934 harvest by an estimated 124,000,000 bushels. For this reduction the government is to pay the farmers \$120,000,000 in cash bonuses, raised through a 30-cent processing tax on flour and other wheat products. Under the plan, the farmer who signs the contract will be paid 28 cents a bushel on 54 per cent of his crop, or the portion of it destined for home consumption.

PACKER TRADE AGREEMENT

FOLLOWING A SERIES OF REGIONAL MEETINGS, A trade-practice agreement for meat-packers, meat-wholesalers, and processors of meat products has been prepared by a committee of the Institute of American Meat Packers and submitted to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. A formal hearing has been set at Washington for September 8.

The proposed code, among other things, covers the following important points:

1. A Processors' Committee of four members to be appointed by the packers to meet with producers, marketing agencies, and others for consideration of sound production and marketing policies.
2. Adoption of prices to be paid for live stock, using Chicago market quotations as a basis.
3. Fixing of weight and grade classifications, as well as price differentials.
4. Allocating supplies of live stock among packers for slaughter.
5. Removal of surplus meat from trade channels.
6. Development of production-control program.
7. Avoidance of pyramiding of prices to consumers.
8. Elimination of discrimination between direct buying and terminal-market buying.

At the hearing on September 8, the Committee of Five appointed at the recent Denver conference "to act for the American National Live Stock Association in all matters before the Agricultural Adjustment Administration affecting the cattle industry" will be present.

FARM-LOAN APPLICATION PROCEDURE SIMPLIFIED

IN AN EFFORT TO SIMPLIFY AND SPEED UP FARM-debt refinancing in Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and New Mexico, the Federal Land Bank of Wichita has been given the added responsibility, as have all other federal land banks in their districts, for making direct loans to farmers out of the \$200,000,000 fund made available to the Land Bank Commissioner at the last session of Congress. G. E. Ferris, information agent of the Farm Credit Administration, announces. Heretofore agents have been in charge of disbursing this special emergency agricultural relief fund. Under the new plan, they will become officers of the land banks, and the administration of the fund will be under the direction of the boards of directors and presidents of the banks.

Previous to this simplification of application procedure,

a separate application had to be made to the land bank for a loan not to exceed 50 per cent of the appraised normal value of the land, plus 20 per cent of the value of the permanent, insured farm buildings, and a separate application to the agent of the Land Bank Commissioner at Wichita for a loan on farm real estate and personal property for not to exceed 75 per cent of its normal value. Now, only one application and one appraisal deposit are required for the maximum loan obtainable on the security offered.

Applications for loans from the Federal Land Bank of Wichita have increased more than twenty-five times normal since the enactment of the Emergency Farm Mortgage Act of May 12, 1933. A comparison discloses 109 applications for \$337,400 received in April, during which month 46 loans, for \$120,200, were closed. In July a flood of 2,897 applications, for \$14,620,300, came to the bank. Fifty-five loans, for \$204,600, were closed by the bank in July. From April 1 to August 15 a total of 5,982 applications for loans, averaging slightly over \$5,000 each and totaling \$29,916,200, were considered by the bank's officers. During this period the bank made loans to 221 of these applicants for a total of \$658,400—an average of about 3,000.

In addition to these loans closed, 1,779 applications, for loans totaling \$8,718,300, have been approved for appraisal prior to closing or rejection. Of these, 996, for a total of \$5,367,700, have been received from farmers in Kansas; 560, for \$2,242,100, from Oklahoma; 200, for \$1,059,500, from Colorado; and 23 from New Mexico, for \$49,000.

GOVERNMENT CROP FORECAST

FURTHER DECLINES IN CROP PROSPECTS OCCURRED during the month of July, caused by a continuation of drought conditions over large sections of the United States. The prolonged dry spell was broken in the Cotton Belt, and states east of the Great Plains received partial relief. A large portion of the plains country, the Corn Belt, and the North Atlantic states, however, lacked adequate moisture during all or part of the month, and the Panhandle of Texas, western Oklahoma, southwestern Kansas, central South Dakota, and southwestern Minnesota were still in acute distress at the beginning of August.

As a consequence, the government forecast for the corn crop was reduced by 111,000,000 bushels, the wheat and oat crops were expected to be the smallest in thirty-five years, and the condition of pastures was the lowest for the entire period that official records have been kept.

There follow the government's estimates for the principal crops as of August 1, with 1932 yields for comparison (in bushels except as otherwise indicated):

	1933	1932
Winter wheat.....	340,000,000	462,000,000
Spring wheat.....	159,000,000	265,000,000
All wheat.....	499,000,000	727,000,000
Corn.....	2,273,019,000	2,875,570,000
Oats.....	666,745,000	1,238,231,000
Barley.....	157,634,000	299,950,000
Rye.....	23,116,000	40,409,000
Buckwheat.....	5,800,000	6,800,000
Flaxseed.....	7,800,000	11,800,000
Rice.....	34,200,000	39,400,000
Grain sorghums.....	68,600,000	105,900,000
Potatoes (tons).....	292,668,000	357,679,000
Hay, tame (tons).....	64,910,000	69,794,000
Hay, wild (tons).....	8,868,000	12,187,000
Sugar-beets (tons).....	9,960,000	9,070,000
Cotton (bales).....	12,314,000	13,002,000

OUR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

PRESENT FREIGHT RATES HELD REASONABLE

IN A SEVEN-TO-THREE DECISION, THE INTERSTATE Commerce Commission on July 31 held the present general railroad freight-rate structure to be reasonable, in the light of present conditions, refusing to order the blanket reductions sought by farm, lumber, coal, and other interests.

Complainants in this case (Docket 26000), in which the American National Live Stock Association joined, last January asked for a readjustment of rates, on the plea that price-levels of nearly all commodities have declined severely since 1929, that corresponding reductions in the cost of rail transportation have not been made, and that movement of traffic, now lagging because of excessively high freight rates, would be stimulated by lowering rates to a basis more comparable with commodity prices.

While admitting the present relatively high rate-levels, the commission decided that this was not depressing volume of traffic and general business, and that reductions would not stimulate movement, except so far as the railroads might recover traffic from competing forms of transportation.

The net revenue of railroads in 1932 was only approximately half that of 1921, a depression year, the decision declares, and even "after making full allowance for the recent upturn in the volume of traffic, if rates in general were lowered as much as 10 per cent, the net revenue in the near future would probably fall short of meeting fixed charges." A general rate reduction, the commission points out, imposed on the railroads when earnings are already greatly affected by loss of traffic to competing carriers, would still further threaten the continuance of adequate railroad service, the "preservation of which is more important to the country than lower freight rates."

The commission did not go into the determination of the reasonableness of rates on particular commodities, but suggested that "rate revisions must be continued without abatement to meet new conditions. Rate peaks must be retained where justified, and cut down where found unjust."

LIVE-STOCK TRANSIT CASES

REPORTING ON THE LIVE-STOCK TRANSIT CASES, R. W. A. Disque, examiner for the Interstate Commerce Commission, finds that traffic regulations "prohibiting in the West, except at certain points, diversion and reconsignment at through rates where live stock changes ownership at public markets" are unreasonable, and recommends that these services, with sale-in-transit arrangements, be permitted at a charge of \$15 per car, in addition to switching charges.

According to the report, the maintenance of less favorable transit arrangements at Kansas City, St. Joseph, Omaha, Sioux City, Sioux Falls, St. Paul, Chicago, Wichita,

and Fort Worth than at Denver, Ogden, and Salt Lake City does not result in undue prejudice to the first-mentioned group of points. Lack of similar arrangements at private markets, however, is found to be prejudicial. The report suggests that sorting, grading, and mixing arrangements at Denver, Ogden, and Salt Lake City be voluntarily canceled.

The report dismisses the complaint of western packers against the railroads for failure to provide slaughter-in-transit arrangements at the Denver and Missouri River markets on eastbound traffic.

Rates on stockers and feeders from western points to Wichita—a question brought into the hearings by Wichita interests—are held to have been decided in Docket 17000.

It remains now for the litigants to make written exceptions and present oral arguments before the commission. The American National Live Stock Association, participating in all the hearings in these cases, will file exceptions to certain parts of the report, particularly the \$15 sale-in-transit charge.

HAY RATES IN DOCKET 17000

DECISION IN THE PART OF DOCKET 17000 DEALING with hay rates—an elaborate case arising out of the Hoch-Smith Resolution—was handed down by the Interstate Commerce Commission under date of July 24. Although complaint had been made of the general level of rates, which, the commission states, the record did not show to be unreasonably high, nor too low, as respondents had averred, none of the consolidated specific complaints involved territory west of the Rocky Mountains.

In discussing the problem of hay transportation, the decision declares that hay is a commodity which cannot be expected to do more than "pay its way." The injustice is pointed out of making one level of rates apply alike where hay moves steadily and where it never moves, and the impossibility of a basis higher than the railroads could charge and retain the traffic is stressed. The commission "is not persuaded that it can lawfully require any general, uniform readjustment of the freight rates on hay in the Western District or in major portions thereof."

The commission, therefore, confines itself to the removal of such specific violations of the Interstate Commerce Act as were brought to its attention by formal consolidated complaints. In Case No. 12244, which attacked the relationship of rates on hay in carloads from Oklahoma and Texas to points in Texas, the commission found such rates to be "unduly prejudicial to Oklahoma and shippers therefrom, and unduly preferential to Texas and shippers therein." Rates from points in South Dakota to destinations in Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, and Wyoming, assailed in Case No. 16502, were not shown to be unduly prejudicial, but found to be unreasonable, and reasonable rates were prescribed.

TRADE REVIEW

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS

IN THE BELOW TABLES, SHOWING OUR EXPORTS and imports of live animals, meat products, oils and fats, hides and skins, and wool for the first six months of 1933, as compared with the corresponding period of 1932, what strikes the eye are the large increase in the number of hogs exported; the relative stability of meat exports, with the two leading commodities—ham and lard—both giving a good account of themselves, so far as volume is concerned, in spite of all restrictions placed upon them by foreign governments; the expansion in imports of canned meats (which are mostly beef from South America); and the equally significant growth in imports of nearly all classes of hides and skins, with cattle hides alone figuring with an addition of over 4,500,000 pounds to the quantity shipped in during the first half of 1932:

MEAT PRODUCTS

(Pounds)

EXPORTS

	1933	1932
Beef and veal, fresh.....	1,268,157	820,065
Pork, fresh.....	4,536,613	4,490,376
Mutton and lamb, fresh.....	135,164	
Beef and veal, pickled.....	5,392,753	4,976,901
Hams and shoulders.....	37,882,909	31,896,945
Bacon.....	7,548,885	9,144,542
Cumberland sides.....	712,636	363,030
Pork, pickled.....	6,691,233	7,674,264
Canned meats.....	6,568,167	
Lard.....	306,262,261	292,156,374
Neutral lard.....	2,781,286	2,183,840
Oleo oil.....	18,298,316	21,075,336

IMPORTS

	1933	1932
Beef and veal, fresh.....	266,815	440,353
Pork, fresh.....	375,848	719,048
Mutton and lamb, fresh.....	13,211	48,997
Beef and veal, pickled.....	365,009	410,987
Hams and bacon.....	993,817	1,693,243
Pork, pickled.....	366,232	610,981
Canned meats.....	17,772,792	10,032,528
Other prepared meats.....	1,386	5,587
Animal oils and fats.....	56,249	89,407

HIDES AND SKINS

(Pounds)

EXPORTS

	1933	1932
Cattle hides.....	10,072,449	11,955,681
Calf skins.....	2,983,699	4,118,834
Sheep and goat skins.....	791,495	1,303,389
Others.....	1,721,366	3,532,709

Totals..... 15,569,009 20,910,613

IMPORTS

Cattle hides.....	38,742,381	34,154,145
Buffalo hides.....	279,831	554,086
Kip and calf skins.....	20,846,069	13,842,941
Horse and ass hides.....	7,654,607	4,148,971
Sheep and lamb skins.....	21,374,166	18,367,803
Goat and kid skins.....	33,681,459	30,806,825
Kangaroo skins.....	242,544	290,653
Deer and elk skins.....	912,803	1,044,219
Reptile skins.....	646,532	612,807
Others.....	3,322,337	2,623,014

Totals..... 127,704,729 106,445,464

LIVE ANIMALS

(Numbers)

EXPORTS

	1933	1932
Cattle.....	1,153	1,868
Hogs.....	11,496	815
Sheep.....	258	3,182
Horses.....	209	1,402
Mules, asses, and burros.....	914	489

Totals..... 14,030 7,756

IMPORTS

	1933	1932
Cattle.....	55,491	59,528
Sheep.....	31	1,122
Horses.....	1,863	1,746

Totals..... 57,385 62,396

Hogs (pounds)..... 4,814 12,472

WOOL

(Pounds)

EXPORTS

	1933	1932
Wool and mohair.....	7,336	43,294
Imports.....		

Wool and mohair..... 34,658,245 38,385,594

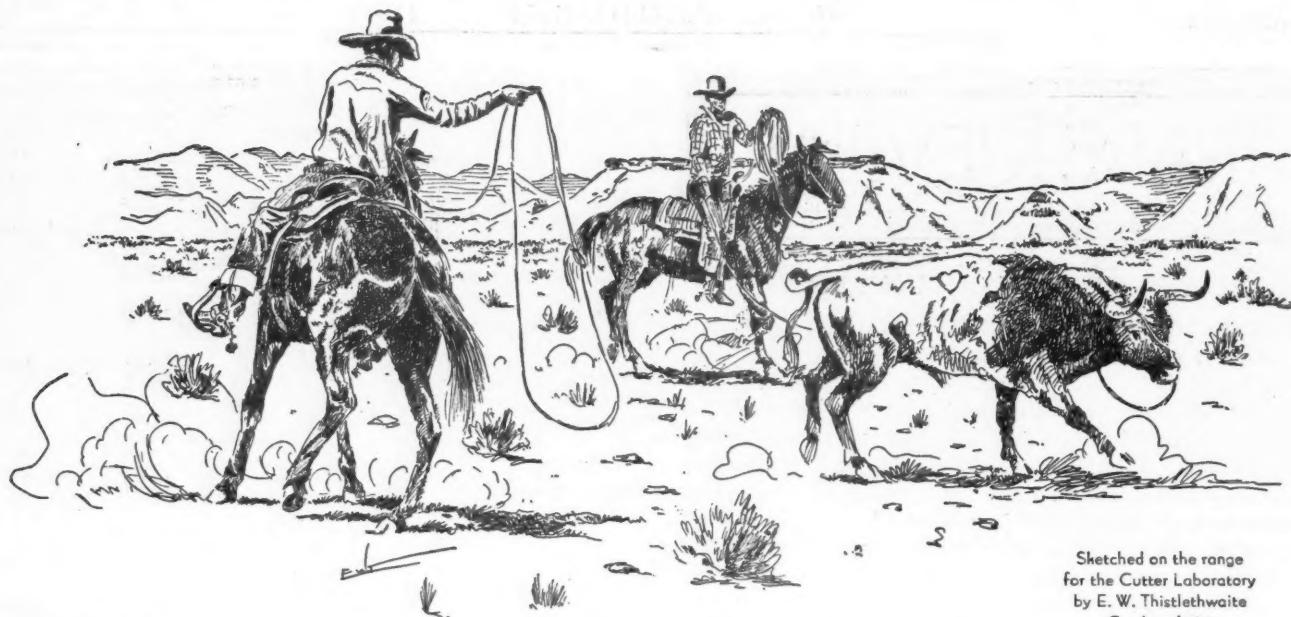
MARKET NEWS SERVICE RESTORED

RESTORATION OF THE MARKET NEWS SERVICE of the Department of Agriculture to practically its old basis has been announced from Washington. When this service first was ordered discontinued, as an economy measure, such a storm of protests arose throughout the country that the order was speedily modified to include only certain branches of the service, the daily live-stock market reports, among other things, being retained. Now Secretary Wallace finds that there will be about \$1,000,000 available for this purpose during the current fiscal year, compared with the original appropriation of \$1,300,000, enabling the department to resume most of its former news-distributing functions.

RELIEF FOR DAIRY INDUSTRY

IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE AMOUNT OF butter in storage is at present running about 20,000,000 pounds above the five-year average, seriously depressing prices, Secretary Wallace and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration have decided to create a fund of not less than \$30,000,000 for the purchase of enough butter and cheese to improve conditions in the dairy industry. Plans are also being completed for limiting the production of dairy products, so that control of prices can be effected at the source. Funds for financing the plan will be raised by the industry itself.

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Cowboy Artist

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THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN AUGUST

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., September 1, 1933.

TWO SELLING PLATERS ON THE CARD AS "BAL-loon" and "Ice Cream" figured in a race on an eastern track recently. Announcing results, the caller in a Chicago bookmaking joint said, jocularly: "Ice Cream melted; Balloon blew up." And that is exactly what has happened at the live-stock market recently. Nothing wearing a hide, bristles, or pelt enjoyed immunity. Cattle values were hit to the tune of 50 cents to \$1 per cwt.; hogs slumped to the lowest levels since the post-moratorium boom; lambs lost \$1.50 per cwt., and even a fat-sheep market, previously yielding barely enough to pay freight bills, was chiseled to the extent of 25 cents per cwt. Amidst loud peals of recovery sounded by thousands of publicists and their vociferous organs, live-stock shippers sat on stock-yard fence-tops and watched the depreciation microbe get in its deadly work, while costs incidental to production mounted. Meanwhile retail cost of meats was stealthily raised, putting a further crimp in consumption. In this gloomy chaos a few bright spots appeared. Heifers had a dependable market, low-cost cattle could be sold without haggling, and the gigantic government pig purchase was responsible for a steady, active market on weights between 25 and 100 pounds. Otherwise the cattle market lacked recuperative energy, and the hog market was a miserable flop after killers began handling pigs on a cost-plus basis. Expectation that a healthy, rising wool market would act as a stout prop under lamb trade died out late in August. Every pound of meat going into distributive channels encountered pronounced sales resistance, indicating that restricted consumption, rather than excess production, was the responsible factor. Throaty protest by producers was submerged by the anvil chorus of economists and the commercial literati exultant over opportunity to play up and magnify such encouraging phases of the general situation as developed from day to day. These mouthpieces waxed eloquent over possible expenditure of \$50,000,000 for pigs, heralding it as agricultural relief.

Cattle Heavy Losers during Month

At the high spot, choice yearlings sold on the Chicago market at \$7.60. Late in August, \$7 was out on the limb. Occasionally the whole cattle market made an exhibition of virility, but went over the top definitely on Thursday, the 24th, cracking wide open subsequently, and losing anywhere from 50 cents to \$1 per cwt. before the end of the month. Top and bottom price grades suffered least, yearlings and light steers most. Code operation prompted retailers and restaurateurs to mark up prices as the only means of meeting added expense. Killers asserted inability to increase wholesale prices, forcing them to go into the red on their turn-over. Whatever obstacles to beef distribution may have developed at that stage, every cattle-buyer on the market carried in his head admonition from the beef-house to reduce cost of raw material, the result being a period of matinee trading, with buyers indifferent about clearances. Cattle went over the week-end unsold; others were carried both by

shippers and local killers. By the end of August, sales above \$6.50 were notable, a large percentage of the fed steers going over the scales in a range of \$5 to \$6.25. Late in August, \$6.25 bought a cut of the same drove of steers that sold at \$7.10 three weeks previously, and, having been on feed longer, they were better cattle. Standard yearlings with a reputation, weighing between 950 and 1,000 pounds, went at \$6.75, and good heavy cattle—1,400 to 1,500 pounds—at \$6 to \$6.25. A few prime heavy bullocks were eligible at \$6.50 to \$7, but the presence of a few more would have taken 50 cents per cwt. off the price. Much publicity has been given the advance in heavy cattle since the bargain sale terminated, but such bullocks merely took their proper position in the price range when the bulk of the crop had been beefed. An outstanding feature of the trade has been killer demand for "something cheap"—steers selling from \$5.25 down, the product of which does its own selling. Thousands of little cutting steers, selling at \$2.50 to \$3.75 per cwt., got early-morning action, while long-fed cattle waited either until the post-meridian session or until the following day before getting an opportunity to trundle scaleward. A raft of yearlings went out of feeders' possession at \$5.50 to \$6.25 per cwt., scant, if any, difference being made between steers and heifers, as the juvenile females were always wanted at \$5.50 to \$6.25. Interior packers went on a highway still-hunt for heifers, diverting them from the market.

Western Grassers Deficient in Beef

Western grass cattle began their season's engagement early in August, Montana and the Dakotas furnishing the major portion of Chicago's supply. The run was deficient in beef, carrying a long stocker and feeder end. Stockers sold in a range of \$3 to \$4.50. Killers took "woody" steers around \$3.50, and, at the inception of the run, Montana grassers went to killers at \$4.25 to \$4.75; Dakota cattle showing evidence of grain, and weighing around 1,300 pounds, cashing at \$5.75. One load of fat Montana grassers got over at \$5.50, but before the end of the month any bloom appearing previously had been brushed off. Montana cows sold up to \$5.75, and Sandhill cows from Nebraska at \$3.25 to \$3.50.

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Prices up to \$2 Lower than Year Ago

Recently a Montana banker wrote a Chicago commission house for data concerning the previous low level on western cattle. The commission man ransacked his morgue as far back as 1904, failed to exhume sales down to the present basis, and then threw up his hands. Current prices are \$1 to \$2 lower than at the corresponding period of 1932—a condition that will probably hold westerns back. In fact, Ed Dana, of Montana, returned to pasture a train assembled at the loading chutes at the end of August. Acres of range cows cashed at \$2.75 to \$3.25. Late in August a drove of fleshy 1,238-pound whitefaces from North Dakota went to a feeder at \$4, the packer limit being \$3.75. Southwestern grassers that sold in Fort Worth at \$5.25 early in the season had to be content with \$3.75 to \$4 late in August on beef account. Contrasts with the 1932 market are striking. Just about a year ago killers paid \$7.25 to \$8 for 1,050- to 1,200-pound fat Montana yearlings and two's that are now a flat \$2 per cwt. lower, as \$5 is the limit on anything. Feeder yearlings costing \$6.25 to \$6.40 a year ago are well sold under present conditions at \$4.25. From the opening of the 1933 range season, stockers and feeders lost 50 to 75 cents; fat western cattle, about \$1. When packers lay down on the two-way type, feeders also folded up their tents and stole away. Their stereotyped protest against packer competition on fleshy steers was no longer audible when they could get cattle on their own terms.

Market Swamped with Dairy Cows

Markets have been deluged with dairy cows, selling mainly in the \$1.50 to \$3 range. Heavy imports of South American canned beef are partly responsible for low-cost

canners and cutters. World's Fair consumption of "hot dogs" and "Hamburgers"—otherwise minced beef—has been enormous, but low-grade cows have not profited thereby. Sausage-makers are buying bulls anywhere from \$2.50 to \$3.25 per cwt.—the cheapest supply of raw material available in many years.

Government Pig Purchases Upsetting Hog Trade

When the pig deal became operative, killers lost interest in the regular hog market, which sagged to lower levels daily. Pig gluts at all markets except Chicago and Omaha overtaxed processing facilities, and, as killers were operating on a cost-plus basis under the government pig-handling contract, they had every incentive to work day and night on pigs. From the arid sections came a swelling procession of juvenile porcines that developed congestion at St. Louis, Sioux City, and St. Paul, necessitating control of the movement with a loading-permit system; recalling the war period, when drove cost was fixed at \$17.50, and every hog in the country tried to get to the market within a few days. If pig destruction was the objective of the program, it has been successful, but if the pork-reduction advocates aimed at repressing future generations, they bet on the wrong card. An estimate that 20 per cent of the government purchase would be pregnant sows shot wide of the mark, females being conserved rather than sacrificed. The bulk of the sows sent to market were ragged bellies that had seen their best days as breeders. Few good sows showed up, as they were worth more money in the country. Farmers, operating on the theory that pig slaughter insured higher hog prices, not only retained useful sows, but sent gilts of the 1933 spring pig crop to the breeding-pen. Net results of the wholesale

INTERMOUNTAIN LIVE STOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATION

THE growing knowledge of the producing public that CO-OPERATION will do much toward correcting present conditions is largely responsible for an increase of 137 per cent in Cattle Sales and an increase of 38 per cent in Hog Sales during the month of June. This same knowledge, together with UNEXCELLED SALES AND SERVICE, is responsible for a further gain of 195 per cent in Cattle Sales and a gain of 122 per cent in Hog Sales during the month of July, as compared with the same period one year ago.

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decimation, for which Uncle Sam is paying a stiff price, cannot even be estimated until October 1, when the present buying campaign ends. Probably 4,000,000 pigs will be garnered, of which a large percentage, weighing under 80 pounds, will be reduced to tankage and fertilizer; but from the outset it was obvious that the 1,000,000 sows, potential mothers of 5,000,000 pigs, would not report to the butcher. Prior to bounty payment of \$4 per head on sows—actually \$5 to \$6 when dockage elimination is reckoned with—the sow market slumped to a \$2.75 to \$3 basis, effacing bounty benefits. The bounty could be increased to \$5, and even \$6, per head without materially increasing sow slaughter. Government pig prices range from 9½ cents a pound on 25- to 30-pound shoats to 6 cents at the 60- to 100-pound level. The whole gathering will probably average 60 pounds.

Processing Tax to Be Imposed

Elimination of 4,000,000 pigs from an annual crop of 50,000,000 to 60,000,000 will not create a supply basis on which to build up a \$6 to \$7 market, especially if fall and spring pig farrowing is maintained. The next step in the long-period program announced by Secretary Wallace is imposition of a processing tax, for which purpose a conference has been called at Washington on September 5. Obviously, a tax of one-half cent per pound will not realize sufficient money to reimburse the government for expenses incidental to the present pig-buying campaign, plus cost of taking 20,000,000 acres of corn out of cultivation next year, especially if the tax is put on hogs weighing 235 pounds up. Probably it will be necessary to apply the tax down to 200 pounds. Even then there will be a disposition on the part of growers to market the new crop at weights ranging from 170 to 190 pounds, which will have the effect of reducing tonnage; also filling storage space, and increasing visible supplies of cured meats and lard early in the winter packing season. The mid-September statement of lard and meats in storage will be the heaviest in many years, creating a distribution problem which the present program does not reckon with. Theoretically, consumers are to pay impending processing taxes. Possibly they will, but it is an even chance that they will balk, in which event the amount will be deducted from hog prices during the winter. When any commodity in abundant supply is taxed, the producer pays; when supply does not exceed consumer requirements, the consumer foots the bill. During September every processing plant in the country will be busy handling pigs, to the detriment of regular hogs, which will retard the new movement.

Millions Being Distributed in Dry Sections

Meanwhile millions are being disbursed to farmers throughout the dry sections for pigs, each dollar thus spent constituting a lien on the winter hog crop, to be paid by packers, who will pass it on either to pork-consumers or back to hog-growers. The bug will land on either chip.

Lamb Values Break

A break of \$1.50 per cwt. in lamb values during the latter half of August established a low level on the crop. The top price dropped precipitately from \$8.75 to \$7, but on the bulk of lambs the break did not exceed \$1.50. Feeding lambs broke 50 cents per cwt. to a \$6.25 top at Chicago, and \$6.50 at Omaha, where \$6 to \$6.25 took the bulk late in August. Owing to corn-crop devastation, Chicago has been an indifferent feeding-lamb market this season, Indiana and Illinois farmer-feeders being out of the game. At the close of August, \$6.75 to \$7.25 bought the bulk of fat lambs, the

market showing a pick-up trend after the low spot had been reached. Northwestern lambs lack sap, are dressing low percentages, and have been penalized, although condition and quality have not been adequately premiumed. The western lamb crop is probably considerably shorter in numbers than early estimates indicated. Meat consumption has been well maintained, and, as the wool market displays gratifying strength, it is probable that the fat-lamb trade will react to a \$7.50 to \$8 basis, since the market is peculiarly sensitive to supply, every short run prompting packers to buy for numbers. Broad farm demand for breeding ewes evidences intention to reinstate flocks dispersed during the depression period, as raising lambs is a more attractive proposition than growing hogs. Country trade in native ewes has assumed large volume, that being the sole source of supply, western breeders holding tenaciously to useful breeding stock and retaining many ewe lambs for replacement purposes. The lamb deal is tied up closely with wool, as raisers are getting



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full benefit for new fleece values, meat selling no higher than a year ago. If wool prices hold up, lambs are a good feeding proposition, and any ewe capable of mothering a healthy lamb a desirable investment. The August break in lamb prices upset growers' revenue expectancy for the season's gathering, but there is good ground for expecting reactions.

FEEDERS IN SLOW DEMAND

J. E. P.

POSSIBLY A CATTLE-FEEDER MIGHT BE INDUCED to bet on a horse-race, but suggest a venture in beef-making, and he blows up. Recently I advised an acquaintance to buy a few loads of fleshy steers at \$4.75 to \$5 per cwt., on the theory that he could buy flesh cheaper than it could be made, and that a ninety-day feed would put them in the \$6.50 fat-cattle class. His reply was garnished with profanity. "Cattle-feeders are born suckers," he asserted. "The cattle-raiser takes money away from us at the inception, the killer at the finality, of the operation."

This attitude is sending thousands of tons of near-beef into beef channels, as feeders are adamantine in their refusal to take on anything with weight or carrying a beef-covering. Killers can use fleshy cattle costing from \$5 down, as a multitude of beef-consumers demand "something cheap." The movement from the markets to the country has contracted; that to the beef-rail, expanded. A discouraging fat-cattle market, advancing cost of corn, dry pastures, and lack of confidence constitute a formidable array of investment-repressing influences. Despite a series of bargain sales, the stocker and feeder movement has been cut 30 to 40 per cent,

compared with the corresponding period of 1932. That many feeders are in waiting mood will be admitted, but many others are out of commission.

Late in August both stock and feeding cattle accumulated at the markets. Dealers, loaded to the guards, took fright, and appeals to the country to take advantage of a bargain sale on a \$3 to \$4.25 basis met scant response. It was possible to get country orders for nondescript and mongrel little cattle priced at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cwt., but when a trader suggested the purchase of steers costing \$4 to \$4.50 per cwt., the prospective buyer disappeared. The July and August purchase of stockers and feeders was decidedly deficient, compared with the corresponding period of 1932; and, unless a freeze visits the Corn Belt, the September movement will also be restricted. Over much of the corn-raising area, wherein the bulk of cattle are fed, corn yields will be the lowest in many years. In some sections the crop is almost a total failure; in others there is a prospect of fair yields, contingent on frost holding off until September 20. A killing frost prior to that date will create a heavy tonnage of soft feed that could only be salvaged by cattle, so that a buying rush would ensue. Low nocturnal temperatures late in August set a belated corn crop back still further, increasing danger of damage. A frosted corn crop would stimulate cattle-buying, and, as considerable old corn would be needed to finish them, a draft would be made on reserves.

Provided corn comes through without a freeze, the tendency will be to crib grain, either let cattle alone, or put in a few and await developments in the fat-cattle market. Obviously the logical course would be to buy fleshy steers weighing 900 to 1,000 pounds, keep in production, and have something to market when the inevitable turn of the tide comes. The crop of fat steers now in feed-lots cannot run indefinitely.

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LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES SHOWING RECEIPTS, SHIPMENTS, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-two markets for the month of July, 1933, compared with July, 1932, and for the seven months ending July, 1933 and 1932:

RECEIPTS

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1933	1932	1933	1932
Cattle*	1,008,327	888,172	6,305,372	6,299,752
Calves	448,133	402,615	3,087,570	3,136,193
Hogs	2,871,352	2,158,524	20,899,024	21,529,099
Sheep	2,225,875	2,239,647	14,369,605	16,022,186

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1933	1932	1933	1932
Cattle*	334,068	362,277	2,293,629	2,410,464
Calves	126,210	129,869	913,321	912,320
Hogs	735,994	715,432	5,401,667	7,097,020
Sheep	1,103,232	1,049,219	6,388,081	7,071,239

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1933	1932	1933	1932
Cattle*	96,703	135,681	825,283	752,556
Calves	14,501	21,347	163,702	131,027
Hogs	55,139	22,214	243,882	209,582
Sheep	108,304	180,776	701,508	876,436

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	July		Seven Months Ending July	
	1933	1932	1933	1932
Cattle*	637,590	511,462	3,925,573	3,830,238
Calves	315,856	271,182	2,160,235	2,205,520
Hogs	2,136,096	1,444,748	15,470,448	14,417,546
Sheep	1,105,619	1,192,743	7,944,414	8,958,260

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELLOW ARE FIGURES SHOWING PRICES ON THE principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on September 1, 1933, compared with August 1, 1933, and September 1, 1932 (per 100 pounds):

	Sept. 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1933	Sept. 1, 1932
SLAUGHTER STEERS:			
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$ 6.50- 7.25	\$ 6.75- 7.50	\$ 9.00-10.00
Good	5.50- 6.65	5.50- 6.90	7.50- 9.25
Choice (900 to 1,100 lbs.)	6.50- 7.15	6.75- 7.50	8.50- 9.60
Good	5.25- 6.65	5.50- 6.90	7.25- 9.00
Medium (800 lbs. up)	4.25- 5.75	5.00- 5.75	6.00- 7.75
FED YEARLING STEERS:			
Good to Choice	5.25- 7.00	5.50- 7.25	7.00- 9.25
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice	4.75- 6.50	5.00- 6.25	6.00- 8.00
COWS:			
Good	3.50- 4.50	3.50- 4.75	3.50- 5.25
CALVES:			
Good to Choice	4.00- 5.00	4.00- 5.00	4.50- 6.50
FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:			
Good to Choice	4.00- 5.00	4.50- 5.75	5.50- 6.75
Common to Medium	2.50- 4.00	3.00- 4.50	3.25- 5.50
HOGS:			
Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.)	4.00- 4.50	4.40- 4.70	4.40- 4.85
LAMBS:			
Good to Choice (92 lbs. down)	6.50- 7.25	6.75- 8.25	4.75- 6.75
EWES:			
Good to Choice	1.50- 3.00	1.25- 2.75	1.50- 2.50

HIDES RELAPSING INTO SLUGGISHNESS

J. E. P.

A SOMNOLENT LEATHER TRADE HAS TAKEN THE "tuck" out of the hide market. Late in August prices slipped, only resistance on the part of the big packers, organized as the Packers' Hide Association, preventing a break. As it was, prices receded 1½ cents per pound on a moderate turn-over. The immediate future of the hide market is up to the coterie of big packers, who dominate the bulk of supply. They can weigh their current take-off up to their own tanning account, or sell on the open market, but cannot absorb the entire package.

Expanding cattle slaughter is adverse to maintaining hides at the early August high level, when heavy natives sold up to 15 cents. Leather demand has been fairly dependable, stocks are not heavy, and independent tanners are anxious to keep their machinery in commission; but operating expense has increased under code requirements, shoe demand has not been maintained, and a reaction is logical. Heavy packer steer hides broke to 14 cents; Colorado steers, to 13½; light cows, to 13; and branded cows, to 12½. Country hides broke to an 8- to 9½-cent basis, tanners restricting buying on this new basis. The South American market, recently active, also slowed up.

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A protective dressing with disinfectant, styptic, adhesive and fly-repellent qualities, for use following dehorning operations. Also recommended for surface wounds on domestic animals, such as shear cuts, docking wounds, wire cuts, etc. One gallon treats from 200 to 300 head.

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WOOL TRADE BUOYANT

J. E. P.

WOOL IS THE SOLE COMMODITY ASSOCIATED WITH live stock that has held up during the recent slump in values. It is a buoyant market, both here and abroad. Stocks are low and in strong hands, either private or government. Foreign markets are crawling up under constant buying pressure. Carry-over stocks are light, and constant inroads are being made on the new clip. Especially in the case of Merinos, the statistical position is strong wherever wool is taken off the sheep's back. Germany is a heavy potential buyer, if exchange can be arranged. France is expected to take less, but Italy and Japan are strong buying influences. Smaller clips are in sight in the Southern Hemisphere, private estimates on production running far below official guesses.

More wool was sold during the latter part of August than anyone in the trade expected, as a lull was looked for until code compilation was completed. Medium wools are in short supply, accentuating current demand for these grades. Montana and similar fine staple is quoted at 80 to 81 cents, clean basis; Texas twelve-month selected is selling at 77 to 78 cents; Ohio delaine is worth 32 to 33 cents in the grease; Ohio coming three-eighths, 37 to 38 cents. Territory three-eighths combing is quoted at 72 to 73 cents, holders asking more. The best territory quarter-blood is on a 66- to 67-cent basis.

Production of pulled wool is running considerably behind that of the corresponding period of 1932, due to diminishing slaughter. During the first seven months of 1933 pullers had handled only 37,800,000 pounds of wool, compared with 39,000,000 pounds last year.

Eastern markets are buoyant. One report says: "It is no trick to sell any kind of wool at the best prices of the season." Buyers of medium fleeces find the market decidedly against them. The manufacturing situation exceeds expectancy, weavers getting orders for medium-weight standard worsted goods in excess of what they looked for thirty days ago. Dress goods and cloakings are also moving in large volume. Some of this business may be of an anticipatory character, as retailers are disposed to keep clothing on their shelves at present wholesale cost. To what extent consumers have anticipated winter-clothing needs, in response to the injunction to "buy now and avoid the rise," must be left to developments later in the season. Overcoat-buying has been

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both unseasonal and heavy. Anyhow, mills are running and consuming a large wool poundage. Retailers are stocking up, and new orders are constantly available.

WHOLESALE MEAT PRICES

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED meats at Chicago on September 1, 1933, compared with August 1, 1933, and September 1, 1932, were as below (per 100 pounds):

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

	Sept. 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1933	Sept. 1, 1932
Choice	\$ 9.50-10.00	\$ 9.00-10.00	\$14.00-15.50
Good	8.50- 9.50	8.00- 9.00	13.00-14.00
STEERS (550 to 700 lbs.):			
Choice	9.50-10.50	9.00-10.00	13.50-15.00
Good	8.50-10.00	8.00- 9.00	12.50-13.50
YEARLING STEERS:			
Choice	10.00-10.50	9.00-10.00	13.50-15.00
Good	9.00-10.00	8.00- 9.00	12.50-13.50
COWS:			
Good	7.00- 8.00	6.50- 7.50	8.00- 9.00
VEALERS:			
Choice	12.00-13.00	10.00-11.00	10.00-11.00
Good	11.00-12.00	9.00-10.00	9.00-10.00

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

	Sept. 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1933	Sept. 1, 1932
LAMBS (45 lbs. down):			
Choice	\$13.00-14.00	\$15.00-16.00	\$13.50-15.00
Good	12.00-13.00	14.00-15.00	12.50-13.50
EWES:			
Good	5.50- 6.50	5.50- 6.50	6.00- 7.00

FRESH PORK CUTS

	Sept. 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1933	Sept. 1, 1932
LOINS:			
8-12 lb. average	\$11.00-12.50	\$ 8.50-10.00	\$12.00-14.00

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF STORAGE HOLDINGS of frozen and cured meats, lard, poultry, creamery butter, and eggs on August 1, 1933, as compared with August 1, 1932, and average holdings on that date for the past five years (in pounds except as otherwise noted):

Commodity	Aug. 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1932	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef.....	27,991,000	14,975,000	27,199,000
Cured beef*	13,854,000	11,744,000	14,948,000
Lamb and mutton.....	1,596,000	1,012,000	2,368,000
Frozen pork.....	228,323,000	159,055,000	194,443,000
Dry salt pork*	146,613,000	111,210,000	146,118,000
Pickled pork*	432,909,000	372,787,000	387,407,000
Miscellaneous.....	74,589,000	51,570,000	71,181,000
Totals.....	925,675,000	922,353,000	843,664,000
Lard.....	218,267,000	121,618,000	153,969,000
Frozen poultry.....	40,594,000	27,422,000	39,233,000
Creamery butter.....	150,907,000	110,247,000	128,497,000
Eggs (case equivalent)	12,578,000	9,263,000	12,194,000

*Cured or in process of cure.

FEEDSTUFFS

ON SEPTEMBER 1, COTTONSEED CAKE AND MEAL was quoted at \$16.50 a ton, f. o. b. Texas points. Kansas City hay prices on that date were: alfalfa—No. 1 extra leafy, \$13 to \$14; No. 2 extra leafy, \$12 to \$12.50; No. 1, \$11.50 to \$12; No. 2 leafy, \$10.50 to \$11; No. 2, \$9.50 to \$10; No. 3 leafy, \$8.50 to \$9; No. 3, \$7.50 to \$8; sample, \$7 to \$7.50; prairie—No. 1, \$8 to \$8.50; No. 2, \$7 to \$7.50; No. 3, \$5 to \$6.50; sample, \$3.50 to \$4.50; timothy—No. 1, \$11 to \$12; No. 2, \$9.50 to \$10.50; No. 3, \$7.50 to \$9.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

GREAT REINDEER TREK ENDED

Andrew Bahr, with his herd of reindeer, has at last reached journey's end—the delta of the Mackenzie River where it empties into the Arctic Ocean. In the April number of THE PRODUCER we had a story about this famous march with 3,000 deer over 1,500 miles of mountains and frozen tundra, led by a hardy little Laplander who alternately traveled on foot, on reindeer back, and on a sled pulled by trained deer.

Starting from Kotzebue Sound, in western Alaska, early in 1929, after many bitter hardships and discouraging mishaps the trek is now ended, and the herd can be turned over to the Canadian government, to furnish food and clothing for the natives along the Arctic coast, who in the past have often been threatened with starvation.

The deer were bought from the Lomen Brothers, of Alaska, who hired the herdsmen and superintended the enterprise.

WHAT HAPPENS TO WHEAT CROP

Three things happen to the annual wheat crop of the United States. From 600,000,000 to 700,000,000 bushels go into domestic consumption. Since 1923 this consumption has increased less rapidly than the population. The two other channels into which the supply goes are exports and carry-over. As the exports decline, the carry-over mounts. Records of the Department of Agriculture show that in the year ended June 30, 1923, we exported 205,000,000 bushels and had a carry-over of less than 100,000,000 bushels. In the year ended June 30, 1932, we exported 112,000,000 bushels and had a carry-over of 362,000,000 bushels—three times the normal.

It might be supposed that these declining exports and mounting carry-overs implied a slump in world wheat consumption. As a matter of fact, the world consumption of wheat grew steadily in the last decade. In the 1930-31 season the total apparent disappearance of wheat, outside of Russia and China, was 3,800,000,000 bushels, as compared with only 3,200,000,000 bushels in 1921-22. World wheat consumption in the depres-

sion year 1930-31 exceeded that of the preceding year and about equaled that of the highly prosperous season 1928-29. It was not falling consumption that brought about our mounting wheat surplus. It was rising production here and abroad, says the department.

INTERESTING HYBRIDS

At the Bloemfontein (South Africa) stock show in April of this year, two hybrids, the results of crosses between an eland (a large antelope) bull and a Holstein cow, attracted much attention. The dewlap and a few other characteristics of the eland were noticeable in the animals, but the bovine type predominated. Both were dark red, like the father.

This summer there has been placed in a zoological park in Denmark a cross

between a stag and a heifer. The heifer had been grazing in a wood where there was a herd of deer, but no bulls near. In this calf, too, the mother's traits pre-



STAG-HEIFER CROSS

dominate, but the head, neck, and legs are more like those of a deer. A picture, from a photograph, is shown here-with.

In Australia, where the native wild dog, or dingo, is as numerous, as cun-



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ning, and as much feared by the sheep-raiser as is our own coyote, a new danger has lately arisen in the shape of a cross between the dingo and the Alsatian, or German police, dog. These hybrids, of super-intelligence, combine the bad qualities of the two breeds in a manner that threatens disaster to the flocks wherever they succeed in establishing themselves. In a recent report to the Minister of Agriculture of New South Wales it is stated: "The progeny of the cross are fertile either among themselves or with other dogs. If we get an Alsatian race among wild dogs, we shall probably have a more difficult pest to deal with, and one that will readily attack calves as well as sheep." The importation of Alsatians into Australia has been forbidden, and prohibition of the breeding of the type is being considered.

A Delightful Beginning.—Owing to the absence through illness of the woman who taught the senior girls' Bible class, the young assistant minister was asked to undertake the duties for the day.

He consented, but before beginning he said, smilingly:

"Now, girls, I want to conduct your class just as your teacher does. So you might tell me what she does first."

A short pause, then the answer from a pert miss of sixteen: "Well, she always kisses us all around."—*Tit-Bits (London)*.

Wanted—Stock Ranch

If you are a dissatisfied stockman who has seen his profits dwindle from year to year, until they are now on the minus side of the ledger, I offer my services as manager of your ranch, large or small, and will take my remuneration out of NET earnings.

Am thirty-two years old; married, have one child, American-born; reared on ranges of Montana and Idaho; high-school and some college education. Have worked for Forest Service. Know range business and live stock from A to Z, including ranch work and ranch management. Can get men to work for me. Can give best of references.

Anyone who feels like intrusting the care of his outfit to me on these terms will make a sound investment.

R. A. HUNT, Kevin, Montana

WANTED FOR CASH

Feeder cattle, yearlings or calves, to supply Corn Belt feed-lots; also young stock cows. How many have you for sale? Describe as to quality and approximate weights, and state your railroad loading station.

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ROUND THE RANGE

GOVERNMENT RANGE REPORT

Condition of ranges and live stock in seventeen western states at the beginning of August was given as below by the Denver office of the Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics:

Arizona.—Range spotted—good in higher elevations and generally in north; cattle in good flesh; sheep gaining rapidly.

California.—Range and pasture conditions continue unsatisfactory; shortage of feed and stock water general; foothill sections very dry; high ranges drying rapidly; many cattle in poor flesh; sheep in fair condition.

Colorado.—High summer ranges good, but lower ranges need moisture; eastern part of state extremely dry; live stock in good condition except in drought area.

Idaho.—Lower ranges dry, especially in southern part of state; fall and winter prospects not encouraging; hay crop short; live stock in good condition.

Kansas (western).—Extreme drought in southwestern counties; many cattle moved to eastern Kansas pastures or to market; hay being shipped in; cattle much below average.

Montana.—Ranges dry, except in southeast; cattle and sheep generally in good condition; winter feed prospects have declined, but, with heavy carry-over of hay, no shortage anticipated at present.

Nebraska (western).—Ranges and pastures spotted, but generally short, with condition poorest in southwest; local shortage of hay and feed; some forced marketing of live stock.

Nevada.—Ranges generally very dry; local shortage of stock water; outlook unfavorable for fall and winter range; cattle and sheep beginning to lose flesh.

New Mexico.—Ranges very dry and short in eastern counties, but generally good over rest of state; extreme drought in northeast; fall and winter ranges to be short.

North Dakota.—Ranges fair to good, although showing decline in central and northeastern parts; cattle and sheep in fair condition, but showing some shrink.

Oklahoma.—Range feed short; drought unusually severe in west and northwest; hay and feed crops suffering; feed supplies exhausted in many areas; cattle very thin.

Oregon.—Range good, but drying rapidly over eastern sections; prospect for fall and winter ranges about normal; cattle and sheep in good condition.

South Dakota (western).—Range grasses cured early, due to lack of moisture; winter feed prospect poor, especially in south-central areas; live stock holding up well.

Texas.—Drought situation continuing serious in northwest, and extending into southwestern counties; feed crops very short in dry sections, with no reserves from last year; movement of cattle heavy; considerable shrinkage of live stock.

Utah.—Ranges fair to good, higher ones carrying good supply of feed, lower ones needing rain; hay and feed supplies fair; cattle and sheep in good condition.

Washington.—Lower ranges dry and short of feed, higher ranges good; only fair prospects for fall range; hay crop short, but grain feed abundant.

Wyoming.—Lower ranges in poor condition; higher ranges fairly good, but drying rapidly; live stock holding up well; prospect of general feed shortage in dry areas.

RANGE AND LIVE-STOCK CONDITIONS

Nevada

Cattle are in fair condition in central Nevada. Feed is dry, and water scarce in places. Sheep and lambs are doing all right. So far lambs will be of small crop and light weight, but they are about ready to go out. Money conditions are not so good—never are in a one-buyer place.—FRITZ WALTZ, Cortez.

Wyoming

Until recently the summer has been extremely dry, but we are having some good rains now. Lambs will be light; none have been sold. The present price of wool is helpful to sheepmen. No live stock is changing hands locally, and very few animals have gone to market. Returns are disappointing. In some places the winter ranges are good; in others, poor. It looks as if hay would be higher than usual.—A. M. BROCK, Buffalo.

That's Just the Point.—Prisoner—"It is hardly reasonable to charge me with being a forger, when I can't sign my own name."

Judge—"You're not accused of signing your own name."—Pathfinder.

Time Lost.—"They took me off the dole yesterday, after ten years."

"You've 'ad a good run. What are you grousin' about?"

"Well, ain't I give 'em the best years of my life?"—Answers. (London).

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